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THE TIMES

The shameful poverty behind Ulster's violence, page 10

Social democrats to launch party in 10 cities on March 26

The leaders of the Council for Social Democracy will announce the formation of a new centre party on March 26. A policy statement published then will be subject to change at a national conference. Leading social democratic members, using fast transport, including aircraft, will hold press conferences in 10 cities on the launch date.

Conference to vote on policy

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Dr David Owen, the former Labour Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Mr Roy Jenkins, Mrs Shirley Williams, and Mr William Rodgers, MP for Teesside, Stockton, who form the collective leadership of the Council for Social Democracy, will announce the formation of a new centre party on March 26.

Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East, a leading member of the council, told a press conference at the Commons last night that the preparatory work in launching a political party in an age of modern electronics and rapid communication was complicated.

Referring to the beginnings of the Labour Party, he said: "The last time anyone attempted this was 80 years ago and it was 18 years before they had a proper constitution."

Because the Social Democrats believed strongly in the principle of one member, one vote it was obvious that it would be some time before the party would emerge with a constitution and an agreed policy. The first phase might be completed this year and the second next year.

But in order that people could have a general indication of the party's aims, a policy statement would be published at the launching press conference. It would be subject to change, by democratic vote.

That statement was being drawn up by the trustees of the council, comprising Mr Clive Lindley, chairman, a businessman and former Labour candidate at Leominster in 1974 (chairman), Lord Diamond, former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Sir Leslie Murphy, chairman of the National Enterprise Board until 1980, and Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, MP for Teesside, Thornaby.

Mr Thomas said: "The object is not only to launch ourselves in the world but to invite people to become members or supporters of the new party. It will be possible for people to join by telephone and there will be phone banks operated by volunteers in 18 centres all over the country, including the cities where press conferences will be held."

Contributions will be accepted by Access and Barclaycard, he said.

The extent of that coverage is impressive. The programme will be for the "gang of four" to launch the party and answer questions from the press and television reporters at the Connaught Rooms, London, at 9 am on March 26.

After that, the leading party members will disperse and conduct press conferences in Cardiff, Manchester, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Birmingham, Norwich, Leeds, Southampton and Plymouth.

There may also be a press conference in Liverpool, where Social Democrats are hoping for an electoral pact with the Liberals.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, yesterday welcomed the defection of Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler from the Conservatives. "It is a very significant step forward, because it is the first departure we have had from the Conservative Party at parliamentary level", he said on Independent Television News. At local level, there had been recruits from the Conservative Party to both the Liberal Party and the Social Democrats.

He had been consulted by Mr Brocklebank-Fowler "and he explained to me that he thought that the newness of the Council for Social Democracy was a significant factor in his decision". It was very difficult for an MP to join another party.

Had there been any approaches from other unhappy Conservative MPs? "The answer is yes, but I am not saying that there is going to be a spate of defections from the Conservative Party", Mr Steel said.

"Certainly there are a number of Conservatives who are deeply unhappy and who make no concealment of the fact."

Mr Steel said it was difficult to estimate the number of potential Conservative defectors. "I would not think there would be more than two or three in the life of this Parliament", he said, "but in saying that I do not know how fast the snowball of the new alliance [Liberals/Social Democrats] is going to grow.

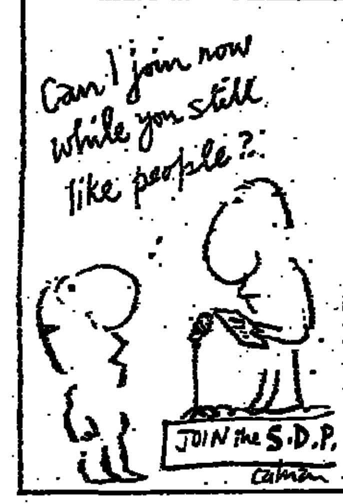
"After all, the Social Democrats still have to launch themselves as a new party. After that we have to put together the political alliance between ourselves. Then, at that stage, I think the thing could well snowball. I may be quite wrong in my underestimate."

The Liberals were looking forward to a by-election, he said, because of the progress they had been making.

Asked if the Liberals would stand aside and give, say, Mrs Williams or Mr Roy Jenkins a free run at a parliamentary by-election, Mr Steel said: "That would depend entirely on the constituency concerned, and certainly I would like to see them both back in the House of Commons, because I think it would strengthen the alliance enormously. I hope therefore that we will be able to help that."

On the question of whether he would urge Liberals to fight for the Social Democrats, he said it would depend on the sort of constituency it was. If there was a strong Liberal association and a candidate was already in place, obviously the Liberal was not going to stand down.

Jenkins speech, page 2



Diplomat referred to in sex trial named today

By Our Political Correspondent

Rejecting the advice of Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, that he should not name the diplomat referred to in a recent case at the Central Criminal Court, Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Huddersfield, West, yesterday tabled two questions in the House of Commons naming the diplomat. He is Sir Peter Hayman, who was High Commissioner in Canada from 1970 to 1974.

Mr Dicken's questions are: "To ask the Attorney General if he will prosecute Sir Peter Hayman under the Post Office Acts for sending and receiving pornographic material through the Royal Mail.

"To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster [Mr Francis Pym] if he will move to set up a select committee to investigate the security implications of the entries contained within volumes of Sir Peter Hayman's diaries, referred to in the trial of Tom O'Carroll at the Old Bailey?"

Reference was made to a diplomat during the trial. Mr O'Carroll, aged 35, who was chairman of the Paedophile Information Exchange, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for conspiring to corrupt public morals.

Sir Michael, who had a meeting with Mr Dickens at the Commons on Monday night, appealed to him not to mention the diplomat's name.

"It seems to me wrong that someone who has not been prosecuted should be named unless there is any compelling reason to do so, and I do not think there is one", Sir Michael had said earlier.

Mr Dickens said last night that he was not persuaded by Sir Michael's arguments.

Mr Dickens claims that the police and many other observers at the trial at the Central Criminal Court were "absolutely staggered" that the diplomat had not been charged as a result of what was found at his flat. He had been a contributing member of the Paedophile Information Exchange.

Last night it became clear that the Attorney General is preparing a fairly lengthy reply to Mr Dickens's question. Mr Pym is not likely to answer his question on security risks until Monday.

Detectives had questioned the diplomat after he had left pornographic material on a bus. On Sunday the Attorney General said that he and Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, had looked at the case and decided that the original decision not to prosecute was correct.

"He was dealt with in exactly the same way as a number of others who had attempted to send obscene material through the post", Sir Michael said. "It was a fairly minor matter. There was no question of them corrupting children."

It appears that nine people were involved and it is being argued that it is wrong to name one man and not the others.

Named diplomat, page 2


Sir Peter Hayman: Former High Commissioner.

Important visitor: The Duke of Edinburgh and President Shagari of Nigeria inspecting the Irish Guards yesterday.

The President and his retinue of two dozen ministers, advisers and businessmen will spend today sightseeing and discussing business and politics. A long lunch is planned with Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary.

Britain is seeking a large share of £600m in arms contracts which the petroleum republic is dangling. According to British officials, the Zimbabwe settlement and the advent of a "civilian conservative, business-orientated government" in Lagos has caused a dramatic improvement in relations between Britain and Nigeria.

It is, however, expected that during the three-day state visit the Nigerians will be pressing for tougher sports sanctions against South Africa and for more western pressure on Pretoria for a Namibian solution.

Junket for robbers was police trap

From Michael Leapman
New York, March 17

The hand-drawn sign in the front window of the charabanc read: "Good Buy Charter". It should have been spelt differently, for the coach party of 25, who had been expecting a jolly day's gambling and drinking a gambling trip to Atlantic City, were instead driven to prison.

It was the culmination of another of those police undercover operations which cause such merriment when they are disclosed here. Good Buy was the name the police gave to a shop they established five months ago in Manhattan's Diamond District, on West 47th Street off Fifth Avenue, for the purpose of buying stolen property.

During that time, police say they bought goods worth $2.5m (£1.1m) although they paid only $8,000 for them. The discrepancy was caused by the fact that much of the property was stolen bonds which are hard to sell and therefore command a low price on the undercover market.

After they set up the shop, describing themselves as "buyers of gold and silver", police said it was not long before word of their willingess to buy stolen property circulated in the underworld.

They received a steady flow of offers and propositions, including one from a man who wanted their help in killing and robbing a Brooklyn couple.

Soon the operators of Good Buy informed their clients that, to celebrate the imminence of spring, they would be organizing a gambling trip to Atlantic City to reward their loyal patrons. There would be free champagne and $1,000 of stake money each. The day trippers were to meet yesterday morning at Sullivan's Bar on Eighth Avenue at 46th Street, not far from the Diamond District.

When the group of 25 had assembled they were all placed under arrest. Then they were loaded on to the coach and driven, not to the seaside, but to the police station.

There, 11 of the 25 were charged with possessing stolen goods and the remainder held for questioning. Police are still looking for 18 of their customers who, with apparent foresight, did not go.

Death squad kills wife of Muslim sect chief

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, March 17

The wife of the head of the Muslim Brotherhood was shot dead at their home in Aachen today by a death squad evidently out for her husband.

Mr Issam al-Attar, the spiritual leader of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood, which has been opposing President Assad's Government in Syria, was in hiding after being warned that his life was in danger.

Aachen police said three swaretry-skinned men entered the Attars' block of flats, accosted a neighbour who had gone to the attic to get her washing and forced her, at gunpoint, to ring the Attar's bell, and smile at the spyhole in the door.

When Mrs al-Attar opened the door they jumped forward, firing with hand guns, hitting her four times in the head, neck, and chest.

One dragged the body into the landing, while the other two ran into the flat apparently seeking Mr al-Attar.

While a neighbour called police, the men raced out of the building and made off in an orange car in the direction of the Dutch border about two miles away.

Mr al-Attar was in no doubt about who was responsible for the murder. Weeping, he told a Syrian journalist in London: "Syrian agents killed my wife". West German police declined to say whom they suspected.

Mrs Benan al-Attar, aged 37, was the daughter of Mr Ali al-Tantawi, a prominent figure in the Saudi Arabian establishment and an eminent judge and authority on Islam. He appears twice a week on Saudi television speaking about Islam.

The murder would upset a delicate truce between the Muslim Brotherhood and the Syrian Government, Mr al-Attar said in a telephone conversation from his hiding place in France.

He told Mr Tammam al-Barazi, a Syrian journalist working in London, that the truce had been negotiated at the instigation of the Saudi Government by Mr al-Harkam, the secretary-general of the Islamic League.

Mr al-Attar said the West German authorities had asked him about three weeks ago to leave the country because they feared a murder attempt, and because there had been pressure from "an oil-producing country" that wanted to put him aside. The Saudis, Mr al-Barazi said, are understood to have wanted him replaced as the head of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Mr al-Attar, who had been living in Aachen for about 10 years as head of the local Islamic centre, became alarmed yesterday after hearing that a group of men had turned up at his flat saying that they were telephone engineers.

His wife telephoned the police, who have been keeping a watch on the place, learnt that no telephone repairs were planned, and refused to let them in.

Today, the police said the killer who did the talking was a boy judged by the neighbour to be aged about 16. He appeared to be carrying a hand grenade. Another appeared to be between 25 and 30, and the third, about 50.

A spokesman for the Islamic centre said the Attars had been living in fear for a couple of years. "You can understand it after what has been going on in Syria", he said.

Another fall for the steeplechase Prince

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Prince of Wales's second steeplechase in five days again ended in failure at Cheltenham yesterday. He was dislodged from his horse, Good Prospect, yesterday in the same way as at Sandown Park on Friday.

Good Prospect started as a 25-1 outsider and misjudged a fence once more, giving his enthusiastic owner-rider little chance of staying in the saddle. This time they parted company with a full circuit left to run, whereas at Sandown there were only four fences to jump.

Each time Good Prospect hit the fence and each time Prince Charles was catapulted forward and out of his stirrups. Professional opinion has it that Prince Charles still has a thing or two to learn about the art of race riding, which is so different to hunting.

By sitting back rather than crouching forward, Prince Charles might not have come a cropper in either race. As he limped away from the fence which brought about his downfall yesterday he was heard to remark: "Oh, well, you live and you learn."

Cheltenham report, page 13

Giant panda is treated at London hospital

By a Staff Reporter

Ching-Ching, the London Zoo's female giant panda, who has been in poor health for some time, became a patient for three hours at University College Hospital, London, yesterday.

The panda, who was given to Britain seven years ago by China, was anaesthetized at the zoo and was taken to the hospital for a radio isotope scan while veterinary surgeons attended her. Technical staff in the scanner room carried out the investigation voluntarily after their working hours.

The results will be known today. The hospital has been giving advice about Ching-Ching for some time. She was in a critical condition last year and had an emergency operation. Ching-Ching is aged eight, young for a giant panda.

Soviet denial of backing M Giscard

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 17

The Russians today vigorously denied that they had signalled their favour of President Giscard d'Estaing in the forthcoming French election, and accused the French press of dishonesty in trying to show that Moscow was *interfering in* France's internal affairs.

The sharp official denial published in *Pravda* comes after a storm was provoked in France by a *Pravda* report from Paris last week which praised President Giscard d'Estaing while seeming to express disapproval of M François Mitterrand, his Socialist opponent.

The report was interpreted as a clear signal that the Russians would prefer the President to emerge as the victor from a run-off between the two, and was swiftly attacked by both Gaullist and Socialist politicians as "inadmissible interference" in French affairs.

Pravda today asserted that it had merely been reporting on the chances of the various candidates as all newspapers did naturally during election campaigns.

Pravda ... accused *Le Monde* and the right-wing *Le Matin* of ... an "... anti-Soviet ..." over the report. It said the "slanderers" were juggling with the facts.

Last week the newspaper described M Giscard d'Estaing as a "restrained and careful politician", who had won personal authority especially on the international scene. By contrast, it accused the Socialist Party, which in 1974 formed an electoral alliance with the Communists, of drifting to the right, and said M Mitterrand's chances were weakened by "the absence of a clear and consistent political programme and a frequent desire to try to suit the interests of a very broad range of voters."

The Russians openly favour Georges Marchais, the Communist leader. This year, he has formed an electoral alliance with the Socialists, and Moscow obviously feels that M Mitterrand is taking potential votes away from the Communists.

Soviet support for President Giscard d'Estaing is not surprising, however. The Russians have a clear interest in his attempts, following those of General de Gaulle, to distance himself from America while asserting that France has a special relationship with the Soviet Union.

Mitterrand hits back, page 7

University job loss could total 7,000

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

About 3,000 university teachers will have to be made compulsorily redundant over the next three years, at an estimated cost of beaween £100m and £200m, because of planned government spending cuts, Dr Edward Parkes, chairman of the University Grants Committee (UGC), told the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee yesterday.

A further 4,000 non-academic staff would also have to be made redundant. Dr Parkes said that unless the Government was prepared to provide the large sums needed to meet redundancy payments, some universities would "simply become bankrupt".

He emphasized that the figures were based on the UGC's most optimistic assumption.

The committee's very conservative estimate was that university income would be cut by at least 11 per cent over the next three years, Dr Parkes said.

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals estimates that income will be cut by 15 per cent.

If the cuts were spread uniformly, all universities would have to freeze all posts, Dr Parkes said. "But in fact we shall be spreading the cuts very non-uniformly".

Redundancy costs would have to take into account the varied nature of university teachers' contracts, but a figure of £40,000 to £80,000 had been suggested for each redundancy.

Dr Parkes said that his committee did not envisage the closure of any university, provided that money could be found for redundancies

Appeals to test criteria on brain death fail

The Court of Appeal has rejected two applications that could have provided the first detailed legal test of the British criteria for brain death. It held that doctors who switched off life-support systems could not be blamed for the deaths of two women. A doctor who claimed that two patients who fulfilled the criteria had survived, has withdrawn the allegation Page 4
Law Report, page 8

Banking realignment

Standard Chartered Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland agreed on merger terms and Lloyds Bank launched a take-over bid for Lloyds and Scottish, the country's largest independent finance house, in the biggest realignment in British banking for more than a decade Page 17

London lorry ban

Heavy lorries are to be banned from a 50 square mile area of north London when a new section of the M25 orbital motorway is opened later this year. The ban is the first in Britain to cover such a big area Page 3

Escape plotters jailed

A plot to snatch an IRA terrorist leader from a London prison by helicopter led to the sentencing of three men after a two-week trial at the Central Criminal Court. Page 2

Double Tory loyalty over petrol tax

Conservative leaders in the constituencies of the Tory MPs who voted against the Government over the 20p increase in petrol tax expressed support for the rebels. But at the same time they emphasized their support for the Government's economic strategy in a double display of loyalty Page 2

'Germ war' lawsuit

The United States Government denied in court in San Francisco that a germ warfare test which created a bacteria-laden fog there in September, 1950, had killed a wealthy businessman who died a month later. Relatives of the businessman are seeking about $5m in damages from the United States Army Page 6

Warning by UN

Major General William Callaghan, the United Nations commander in Lebanon, denounced the "barbaric" killing of two Nigerian soldiers by the Israeli-backed militia of Major Saad Haddad. He issued a warning that if attacked again his force would "protect itself with the defensive weapons at its disposal" Page 7

Amnesty dismissal

A prolonged and bitter dispute within the British section of Amnesty International has led to the dismissal of the director of the human rights organization, Mr Cosmas Desmond. He said he was "utterly and completely amazed" by the executive council's decision. He was undecided whether to appeal against it Page 2

England have hard task to save Test

England, set the improbable task of scoring 523 in 10 hours to win the third Test match, were 166 for 5 at the close of the fourth day. Gooch was 88 not out and shared a second wicket partnership of 120 with Gower, who scored 54 before being bowled by Richards Page 12

EEC passport

EEC foreign ministers have agreed to endeavour to introduce a uniform wine-coloured EEC passport no later than January 1, 1985. It will be issued by the national authorities and carry the name of the issuing state in larger type than the words: "European Community" Page 6

On other pages

Double loyalty in constituencies over Tory rebels

By Ian Bradley

Conservatives in the constituencies of Tory MPs who voted against the Government over the 20p increase in petrol tax on Monday night yesterday mostly expressed their support for the rebellion while emphasizing their agreement with the Government's strategy.

That double display of loyalty was summed up by Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Conran, chairman of Bury St Edmunds Conservative Association. Mr Eldon Griffiths, the local MP, was one of the eight Tories who voted against the petrol tax proposals.

"I support him completely", Colonel Conran said. "There was very strong feeling about the 20p increase in the villages, but it would be quite wrong to say that there is a revolution in Suffolk against the Budget as a whole. We all realize it has got to be uncomfortable. It is just that there are better ways of raising revenue."

Mrs Nina Goodman, chairman of the Harborough constituency of Mr John Farr, MP, said: "People here are beginning to feel shut off by increases in the price of petrol. One feels the Treasury sits in London and does not realize about people in rural areas."

She added: "If bus fares and prices go up, people will have something to blame it on. The Government will be a convenient whipping boy."

Both Mr Charles Russell, chairman of Horncastle Conservative Association, and Mr Philip Smith, chairman at Leominster, said that they fully supported the votes by their MPs, Mr Peter Tapsell and Mr Peter Temple-Morris, against the Government, but affirmed their broad support for the Budget as a whole.

Mrs K. Anderson, agent of the East Aberdeenshire Association, where the local MP is Mr Albert McQuarrie, said rural areas would take a battering out of all proportion to the rest of the country. A local haulage company had told her that it would cost an extra £340 a lorry if the petrol tax was introduced.

Mr John Bosworth, agent of Macclesfield Conservative Association, said that Mr Nicholas Winterton had spoken to members before deciding to vote against the Government. He said: "I am happy about him rebelling on this particular point."

But misgivings were expressed by two constituency chairmen. Mr Roy Writer, from Bodmin, said that Mr Robert Hicks had not consulted the local association. "I accept his point of view but I feel that anyone who voted against the Government should at least have put forward alternative proposals for raising the revenue."

Mr William Podmore from Leek said that he did not support Mr David Knox's vote against the Budget. There had been no consultation. "He was elected on a manifesto. We are in full agreement with Mrs Thatcher."

Some chairmen of constituencies whose MPs abstained also expressed misgivings. Mr Geoffrey Griffin from Bexleyheath said that he was unhappy about the abstention of Mr Cyril Townsend. "If you do not raise revenue from the petrol tax, where do you get it from?" he asked.

Mr Norman Jopling, from Falmouth and Camborne, said that Mr David Mudd had not consulted him before resigning as parliamentary private secretary to Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of State at the Department of Energy.

Committee battle: The Government will have to fight its parliamentary battle over the petrol tax increase on the floor of the Commons agai nwhen the issue reemerges in the committee discussions on the Finance Bill (*Michael Hatfield writes*).

The increase is one of the resolutions the Opposition wants debated in the Chamber rather than in the committee room. It is possible that the number of Tories who voted against (six) or abstained (25) could be increased if an amendment is called to halve the 20p increase and the Government resists. Leading article, page 15

Tax staff prepared to step up disruption

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The Inland Revenue Staff Federation (IRSF) yesterday prepared itself for a further serious escalation of the Civil Service dispute. It said it was ready to withdraw up to 9,000 members from work if the Government steps up contingency measures to evade the strike by tax computer staff.

Pickets are expected outside the Inland Revenue's offices in Bush House, London, this morning in an attempt to block fresh management moves to evade the effects of the strikes at the computer centres at Cumbernauld, in Scotland, and Shipley, in West Yorkshire.

The Civil Service unions mounted a picket at Bush House yesterday after learning that the management were bringing corporation tax and income tax cheques of more than £3,500 to London from the two centres.

According to union sources, 12 senior management members of the Inland Revenue were processing and banking the cheques as they came in.

The IRSF decided last night that it would retaliate if management insisted in involving regional offices in the receipt and banking of payments normally handled at the computer centres as well as chasing defaulters.

Selective strikes continued yesterday, *including a stoppage* by 260 computer staff at the VAT computer centre in Southend

Lord Soames, who as Lord President of the Council is responsible for the Civil Service, travels to Zimbabwe on Friday for a week-long visit to discuss government aid. The Civil Service Department insisted yesterday that his absence made no difference to prospects for a settlement.

The unions expressed anger last night that the Government's chief negotiator was leaving the country at the height of the dispute.

Mr Cosmas Desmond: "Used me as a scapegoat."

Amnesty director dismissed

By John Witherow

A prolonged and bitter dispute within the British section of Amnesty International has led to the dismissal of the director, Mr Cosmas Desmond.

A meeting of the executive council on Saturday considered a report into the dispute by a special commission of inquiry headed by Mr Peter Archer, QC, the former Solicitor General, and decided to dismiss Mr Desmond.

A socialist and former Franciscan priest, Mr Desmond, aged 45, was appointed to the £10,700 a year job in May, 1979. He had spent 19 years in South Africa, where he was put under house arrest, and left the country after death threats to his family.

He said yesterday that he was "utterly and completely amazed" by the council's decision. "They have taken no account about what has happened during the past two years and have used me as a scapegoat", he said.

The dispute within the British section started last September when Mr Desmond decided to reorganize the staffing of the office, made up of volunteers and professionals.

According to sources within the section, the necessity of reorganization to cope with a rapidly expanding membership (numbers have grown from 8,000 in 1978 to 17,000 today) was accepted, but Mr Desmond's methods were unpopular.

The increasingly acrimonious dispute led to an occupation, a partial strike and several resignations. The matter went before the council in January, when Mr Desmond's reorganization was supported but the council changed its mind last month and called for the report.

The crux of the matter is considered to be the British section's rapid expansion, creating unprecedented strains which have soured staff relations. Mr. Desmond believes he has been caught in the middle by trying to expand the grass-roots membership while keeping a highly motivated pressure group.

Hijacked helicopter was to be used to free IRA terrorist leader

Five sentenced for plotting jail escape

By Our Crime Reporter

Two Belfast men were each sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment yesterday by a judge at the Central Criminal Court for firearms offences and their part in planning the prison escape of the man who organized a Provisional IRA campaign in London in 1975.

That man, Brian Keenan, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in addition to the 18-year sentence he is serving after conviction last year for conspiracy to cause explosions and firearms offences.

In the course of a two-week trial the court was told of plans to use a helicopter to rescue Mr Keenan from Brixton prison, London, in the autumn of 1979 while he was awaiting trial.

After sentencing Mr Keenan, aged 39, Robert Campbell, aged 38, Richard Glenholmes, aged 47, and two women, Mr Justice Pain praised the police for foiling "a very dangerous conspiracy".

The judge told Mr Keenan it would be "futile" to pass a concurrent sentence where no penalty was suffered at all. The conspiracy had been serious.

Mr Campbell and Mr Glenholmes were each given sentences of five years for conspiracy to effect the escape and 10 years each for the firearms charges, to be served concurrently.

Mrs Margaret Parratt, aged 35, of Southgate, north London, was sentenced to one year, suspended, fined £1,000 while Miss Jacqueline O'Malley, aged 32, of Notting Hill, west London, was given an 18-month suspended sentence and fined £1,000.

Turning to Commander Michael Richards, head of Scotland Yard's anti terrorist squad, the judge told him: "I do not want to leave this court without commending the work of you and your men." An escape could have led to casualties, perhaps loss of life.

The judge said: "You pounced at exactly the right moment. The actual arrest was carried out in exemplary manner."

Conspirator failed to elude police surveillance

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

The man on the Leinster ferry waited until the customs shed was empty and the security check at the Liverpool berth was over, then walked down the gangplank as though he were a member of the crew.

Mr Robert Campbell, a burly Belfast man in his late thirties, was nothing if not careful, but his cautious landing was a waste of effort. Special Branch officers had been following him for some time on his trips to England. Once again they picked up the trail as he left the dock.

They were slowly pulling together the threads of an audacious escape plot. Mr Campbell had a part in a plan to free Mr Brian Keenan, the man behind a Provisional IRA campaign in Britain which ended with nine people dead, another 100 injured and the Balcombe Street siege in the autumn of 1975.

Mr Keenan would be lifted out of Brixton prison, while awaiting trial, by a hijacked helicopter. It was the stuff of which Hollywood scripts are made.

The result of such an escape cannot be estimated. In 1975 Mr Keenan organized a group which eluded police for months, killing among others Mr Ross McWhirter, the writer, Professor Gordon Hamilton-Fairley, the cancer expert, and Roger Goad, a bomb disposal expert.

In the event the police swooped first and yesterday Mr Keenan and four others were sentenced at the Central Criminal Court for planning the escape.

At 4am on December 12, 1979, a team of marksmen from Scotland Yard's D11 branch carried out the final stage of "Operation Otis", arresting Mr Campbell and Mr Richard Glenholmes.

Yesterday the court was told that Mr Campbell had escaped from prison in Northern Ireland in 1972 after being sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment for armed robbery. He was recaptured eight months later and eventually released.

Mr Glenholmes, aged 47, also a Belfast man, had no record. Both were family men with children.

The police also arrested Miss Jacqueline O'Malley and Mrs Margaret Parratt. Miss O'Malley, aged 32, was a successful middle-ranking civil servant with the Ministry of Agriculture while Mrs Parratt, aged 35, a cousin of Mr Campbell, was separated from her husband. She was the secretary of the manager of a London bank. Both had Irish sympathies.

The joint effort to free Mr Keenan is thought to have been taken partly because of Mr Keenan's status, partly because of political considerations and no doubt because the escape would have been an enormous propaganda coup.

Mr Keenan is thought to have begun his move up through the Provisionals' ranks in the early 1970s. An intelligent, cool character with an ability to lead and plan, he is reported to have joined the inner councils of the Provisionals by the mid-1970s.

Born in Londonderry, he lived for periods in both Northern Ireland and Britain, working at one time as a television repair man. In 1974 he was convicted in Dublin of membership of the IRA and sent to prison.

In 1975 he had been described as the organizer behind the group arrested at Balcombe Street. Some reports suggest he was director of operations for all Provisional attacks; others had him as concerned only with the mainland offensive.

In 1979 he was arrested in Northern Ireland and by then held to be either deputy chief of staff or full chief of staff. He was flown back to Britain, as it turned out, by helicopter to the Battersea landing pad.

The attempt to free Mr Keenan was doomed from an early stage. From the moment Mr Campbell first landed in England in October, 1979, the police were waiting.

Surveillance brought them the other three and the shape and direction of their plans.

With a background of intelligence and surveillance "Otis", named after the lift company, was completed by a 30-strong team from the anti-terrorist squad at Scotland Yard.

Instead of losing a prisoner Brixton gained two more.

Mrs Thatcher negative on leak

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was in a decidedly negative mood in the Commons yesterday as she fended of persistent questioning from Labour MPs who appear to be as anxious as the Prime Minister to discover the source of the Budget leak.

Mr Michael Foot clearly suspects that the culprit is to be found among the soggier elements of the Cabinet.

Normally a kindly man, he seems of late to be taking a somewhat sadistic delight in drumming home to the Prime Minister that the leaks from her Government would seem to have developed into a steady drizzle.

Would the right honourable lady, he asked, enlighten the House about the basis for the inquiry into the alleged Budget leakage?

"I personally, do not set up inquiries into matters within the province of the Treasury", the Prime Minister replied. "It is set up in the normal way by the Treasury through the normal Civil Service departments."

Jumping to his feet (the Labour leader is remarkably spry these days, now that his ankle is restored to good health) Mr Foot took it that this was a normal inquiry into the usual leakage.

He pointed out that perhaps the most serious leakage was the suggestion that it would not be possible to have a pre-Budget meeting of the Cabinet to discuss the Budget because of the danger of leakage

Mr Foot wondered whethet the Prime Minister would care to name the tea-time traitors.

Mrs Thatcher replied that she could never remember a Budget which was discussed in Cabinet before the Budget was prepared. "Never", she added.

Parliamentary report, page 9

Electoral reform likely soon, Mr Jenkins says

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Vowing that electoral reformers will achieve proportional representation by the middle 1980s, Mr Roy Jenkins last night said that the Labour left could otherwise use the present system to come "very close to a recipe for an elective dictatorship".

Mr Jenkins also insisted that proportional representation could "strengthen the 'moderate centre' and provide a government closer to the wishes of the people and "enable us to bridge dangerous and growing . . . politico-geographical divisions". He added: "What are we waiting for?"

In a speech to the Guildhall banquet of the City Committee for Electoral Reform, Mr Jenkins did not offer the specific answer. It is, of course, to get as many MPs elected under the Social Democratic alliance banner as to legislate, or extract a commitment to legislate, on proportional representation in the next Parliament.

For the first time publicly, Mr Jenkins indicated his preference for the West German type of additional member system, in which individual constituency members predominate but with "topping up" from second votes for party lists.

Mr Jenkins did not go much further. And one reason is that the Liberal Party policy is for the single transferable vote system.

Mr Jenkins's main purpose last night was to inspire the case for proportional representation.

But noting how the ability of minorities to hold power had "greatly and unacceptably increased", witness the current Conservative majority resulting from a third of the electorate, Mr Jenkins singled out Labour.

"The dangers of such a position, particularly when, as in the Labour Party, it is fortified by a determined move towards caucus domination, towards the control of a majority of MPs, themselves representing a minority of voters, by a tiny and tighter-knit minority of party activists, whose pretensions grow greater as their numbers grow smaller, is obvious.

"Add to that the proposals for a single-chamber Parliament, and you are very close to a recipe for an elective dictatorship,

Having thus raised the spectre for Conservatives, Mr Jenkins argued that what was "less obvious but still more damning" in the present system was that it was "unfair to the majority", and not just minorities.

Scarman criticism: The workings of Parliament were criticized last night by Lord Scarman, a Law Lord and a former chairman of the Law Commission (the Press Association reports).

He said at the Guildhall banquet that the British parliamentary system was no longer representative of its electorate. Either the two-chamber system should be strengthened, or there should be a written constitution, entrenched and guarded by a supreme court.

Named diplomat a pillar of village life

By Richard Ford

Sir Peter and Lady Hayman live at Oxmore House on the edge of the Oxfordshire village of Checkendon, where they have the affairs of the community. They left the large detached house, set back from the road, last week for a holiday abroad.

Their son, Mr Christopher Hayman, said: "They are on the Continent touring and we have no idea where they are or when they will be back". The couple have a married daughter who lives in Canada.

In Checkendon, Sir Peter and his wife could be relied upon to help out at fetes and were noted for the cocktail parties they held at their home. He had been a committee member of the Checkendon branch of the Conservative Party and vice-chairman for several years until he resigned about a month ago.

They both worshipped at the local Anglican church, where Sir Peter is a sidesman and his wife is a member of the parochial church council. She has told the vicar that she will not be standing for the council again.

Sir Peter was also much in demand to represent Checkendon in a local inter-village quiz where his knowledge of history was useful.

He was deputy chairman of the South Oxfordshire Conservative Association from 1976 to 1977

On resigning from the vice-chairmanship of the local branch, Sir Peter told Mr John Robinson, the chairman, that it was time someone else took over. Mr Robinson said that he was certain Sir Peter resigned because he wanted to save his friends and the association any embarrassment.

"That is the kind of man he is. I am deeply, deeply saddened for his wife and family. She is a lovely person. Sir Peter has done a lot for the village and our party.

"Whenever anything was going on, they were one of the first couples to be asked to help.

Sir Peter was educated at Stowe and at Worcester College, Oxford. He began his career in the Civil Service as an assistant principal in the Home Office and after war service in the Rifle Brigade and a further spell at the Home Office transferred to the Ministry of Defence in 1949. He served as personal assistant to the minister's chief staff officer before becoming assistant secretary to the minister. He was on the United Kingdom delegation to Nato, and a counsellor in Belgrade and Baghdad.

He was minister and deputy commandant with the British Military Government in Berlin and served in the foreign Office before becoming High Commissioner in Canada until his retirement in 1974.

He was knighted in 1971 and his hobbies include shooting, fishing and travel.

Police inquiries failed to find any evidence that the man had any sexual experiences with young boys or girls. He was thought to fantasize about children, and get his "kicks" by writing letters to other perverts describing obscene activities.

£10,000 fine for skipper of trawler

A French trawler skipper was fined £10,000 with £800 costs at Falmouth yesterday for fishing with undersized nets off Corwall on Sunday.

His vessel, the 165ft Cote Saint Jacques, from Fécamp, had been operating inside the 4,000 square mile "box" recently declared a restricted area by the EEC for mass trawling.

M Paul Bellamy, of Yport, France, the skipper, pleaded not guilty, saying that the prosecution had been brought under the wrong section of the Sea Fish Conservation Act, 1967.

His contention was rejected by the magistrates who made no order regarding the £6,000 catch or the nets worth about £2,000.

Kite-flyers warned

Farmers who use high-flying kites as bird scarers were warned by the Ministry of Defence yesterday that there could be "a catastrophic accident" with low flying aircraft or helicopters unless strict regulations are followed.

Church tower protest

Villagers at Bladon, Oxfordshire, where Sir Winston Churchill is buried, have signed a petition calling on church authorities to drop a plan to demolish the stone pinnacles on the tower which overlooks his grave.

Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Duport workers' children at Downing Street knocking the last nail in the steelwork's coffin.

Bewildered steelmen plead for their jobs

From Tim Jones
Llanelli

Mrs Thatcher's personal reply to their joint works committee seems to the workforce at the Duport steel plant at Llanelli to be more than a little ironic.

For when she wrote to them last month the Prime Minister said: "I acknowledge all the efforts which the Llanelli management and workforce have put in to make the works competitive. I wish that the rest of British industry could tell a similar story of cooperation."

The praise is hard to stomach for in two weeks the plant, which has been almost three times as efficient as a British Steel Corporation operation of similar size, will close. More than 1,000 highly skilled men will be out of work, local unemployment levels will be pushed beyond 20 per cent and £21m a year will be sucked out of the local economy.

Yesterday more than 400 workers and their families travelled to London from South Wales to plead for their jobs while others attended a prayer meeting in Llanelli town centre to pray for employment.

The whole experience has left the men frustrated and bewildered for they believe they have subscribed to those qualities of hard work and efficiency which they thought would be rewarded under a Conservative Government.

Mr Duffy hints at postal vote funds acceptance

By Our Labour Staff

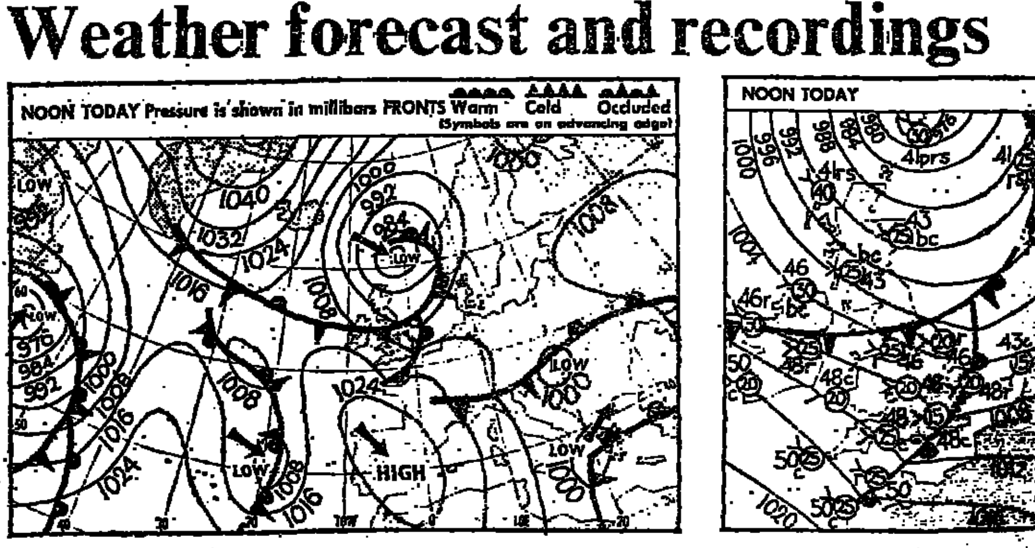
The clearest hint yet that the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) is prepared to accept government money for financing postal ballots was given by Mr Terence Duffy, the president, yesterday.

Mr Duffy told the AUEW's women's conference in Eastbourne that the union's policy-making national committee, which is due to decide on the issue at the end of next month, would not succumb to any outside threats.

The TUC General Council has made it clear that it would take a dim view of unions accepting funds for ballots under the Employment Act.

Mr Duffy said yesterday: "Critics say we should not accept government funds for elections, yet for many years the TUC has accepted money from the Government to further its educational work.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 6.09 am — Sun sets: 6.10 pm
Moon sets: 5.36 am — Moon rises: 3.50 pm

Full Moon: March 20.
Lighting up: 6.40 pm to 5.36 am.
High Water: London Bridge 12.11 am, 6.6m; 12.42 pm, 6.9m. Avonmouth 5.59 am, 12.2m; 6.26 pm, 12.5m. Dover 10 am, 6m: 10.10 pm, 6.2m. Hull 5.05 am, 6.7m; 5.15 pm, 6.9m. Liverpool 10.04 am, 8.6m; 10.27 pm, 8.7m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

An intense depression will become slow moving NE of Scotland with weakening troughs moving SE over the British Isles.

London, SE England: Becoming cloudy with a little rain but brighter later; wind W, moderate increasing fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F), frosty early.

East Anglia, Central S, Central N and E England, Midlands: Mostly cloudy with a little rain, becoming brighter and mainly dry: wind W to NW fresh or strong: max temp 7°C (45°F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Mainly dry, brighter intervals; wind W, fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Cloudy with rain at times, becoming brighter with scattered showers; wind W to NW, strong, locally gale; max temp 7°C (45°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Rain at first, becoming brighter with isolated showers; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Aberdeen, Argyll, Central Highlands: Wintry showers, sunny intervals; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Wintry showers, heavy at times and perhaps prolonged; wind mainly W to NW, gale or severe gale: max temp 2° to 4°C (36° to 39°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Rather cold with wintry showers in the N: becoming less cold in the S; mainly dry at first but some rain alter.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind SW, strong perhaps gale; sea rough.

English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind W, strong: sea rough.

Irish Sea: Wind W or NW, strong perhaps gale; sea rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7°C (45°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2°C (36°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 82 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.04 in. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.6 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,014.6 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	[illegible]	[illegible]	Cologne	c	3	37	London	sl	[illegible]	[illegible]	Oslo	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	c	12	54	Copenhagen	r	2	36	Luxembourg	r	[illegible]	[illegible]	Paris	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	c	4	39	Florence	c	17	63	Madrid	f	11	[illegible]	Rome	r	13	[illegible]
Athens	s	18	64	Geneva	r	3	37	Majorca	r	11	[illegible]	S Francisco	f	13	[illegible]
Barbados	s	29	81	Gibraltar	s	[illegible]	[illegible]	Malaga	s	20	[illegible]	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Guernsey	c	7	[illegible]	Malta	r	18	[illegible]	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	s	[illegible]	[illegible]	Helsinki	sn	−4	25	Miami	f	21	[illegible]	Toronto	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	r	[illegible]	[illegible]	Innsbruck	r	7	[illegible]	Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vancouver	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda	f	14	57	Istanbul	f	13	55	Moscow	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	f	[illegible]	[illegible]	Jersey	f	7	[illegible]	Munich	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vienna	f	11	[illegible]
Brussels	c	5	41	L Palmas	f	20	68	Naples	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budapest	f	10	50	Lisbon	s	17	[illegible]	New York	sn	[illegible]	[illegible]	Washington	c	11	52
Chicago	s	1	34	Locarno	sl	[illegible]	36	Nice	f	15	59	Zurich	c	3	37

Overseas selling prices

Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs [illegible]; Canaries Pts 100; Cyprus 150 mils; Denmark Dkr [illegible]; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk [illegible]; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm [illegible]; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran [illegible]; Iraq ID 0.300; Irish Republic [illegible]; Italy L 1100; Jordan JD [illegible]; Kuwait KD [illegible]; Lebanon [illegible]; Luxembourg Lf [illegible]; Madeira Esc [illegible]; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir [illegible]; Norway Kr [illegible]; Oman OR [illegible]; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR [illegible]; Singapore $1.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din 450; US $[illegible]; Canada $1.65; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

All subscription rates on request

National Front complains of police action

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Martin Webster, national activities organizer of the National Front, yesterday presented to Scotland Yard a dossier which he said showed that the Anti-Nazi League had published addresses and telephone numbers of party members and officials.

Mr Webster, who discussed the allegations with Mr Wilford Gibson, Assistant Commissioner at Scotland Yard, said he would also protest about alleged police harrassment of National Front literature sellers at Chelsea and West Ham football clubs.

Less than two weeks ago a deputation led by Mr Peter Hain, the anti-apartheid campaigner met police chiefs to complain about attacks on the homes of Anti-Nazi League supporters.

Labour MPs in backlash on a Scottish assembly

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The devolution dispute which divided the Labour Party and eventually brought down the last Labour Administration broke out again last night.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the party, is facing a backlash from Labour backbenchers against the decision taken by the Labour Party in Scotland last weekend. By a two-to-one majority the annual conference in Perth called upon the next Labour government to set up a Scottish assembly with legislative and tax-raising powers.

Anti-devolutionist Labour MPs, angered at the decision, want a full-scale debate inside the party before the Shadow Cabinet and the national executive committee gives any commitment.

The first sign of a revolt emerged last night when the Northern group of Labour MPs decided to seek a meeting with Mr Foot to voice their objections. The group is to have a special meeting next week to discuss tactics for mounting opposition. One proposal is a national referendum, including England, Scotland and Wales.

The last Labour Administration was brought down when supporters of devolution in the Scottish referendum failed to poll enough "Yes" votes to meet the anti-devolutionist requirement that 40 per cent of the electorate, not of those voting, should approve.

هكذا من الأصل

Heavy lorries to be banned from large area of north London in experimental scheme

By Jacob Ecclestone

Heavy lorries are to be banned from 50 square miles of north London when a new section of the M25 is opened in September.

Announcing the ban yesterday the Greater London Council said it was experimental and not intended to stop lorries seeking legitimate access.

The aim is to prevent lorries of more than 7.5 tonnes gross (3 tonnes unladen) driving through the area bounded by the A1, M25, A10 and the North Circular Road.

The ban is the first in Britain to cover such a big area, one-twelfth of greater London. Its effect on traffic will be monitored by GLC engineers and planners who will prepare reports

Mr Alan Greencross, leader of the council's planning and communications policy committee, said yesterday that the GLC had been asked by Barnet and Enfield borough councils to introduce such a ban "and we think the time is right to try it experimentally".

Enforcement of the ban is likely to be difficult. The police are not in favour, believing that it will be difficult for them to decide whether lorries are seeking access.

In a letter to the committee last October, Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said the scheme should not go ahead until the M25 ring road had been finished.

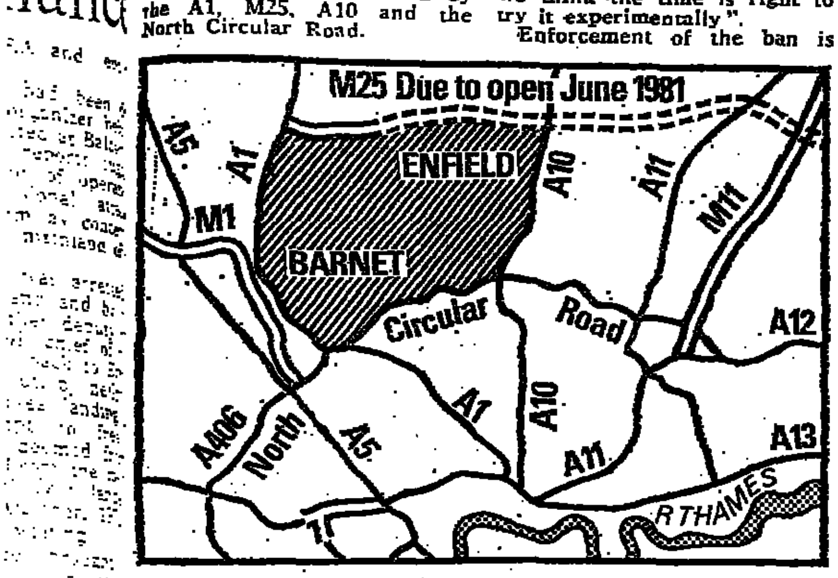
The committee was told, however, that self-enforcement would be effective, similar bans on a small scale having reduced heavy goods vehicle traffic elsewhere by between 50 and 80 per cent.

The scheme has been worked out over the last two and a half years, with detailed consultations over the past seven months. People living in the banned area were strongly in favour;

The Road Haulage Association protested that the scheme would cause severe congestion

The GLC was told that an estimated 3,500 lorries a day would be affected and about 3,000 of those were expected to be diverted on to the M25 when it opens.

The GLC also announced another restriction yesterday, on "road-trains"—lorries towing a rigidly fastened trailer. The ban affects "trains" more than 15.5m long and applies to the whole of London apart from a few trunk roads. Lorries towing fairground and circus equipment are exempt.



The shaded area where lorries of more than 7.5 tonnes gross are to be banned after September.

Woman was found to be alive in coffin

From Our Correspondent
Gloucester

A woman certified dead from a drugs overdose came back to life in a mortuary yesterday.

Mrs Jacqueline Rosser, aged 32, was later unconscious and critically ill at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, Gloucester.

She had been found at her home in Chapel Street, Stroud, early yesterday morning. A doctor certified death and an undertaker took her to the Gloucester mortuary,

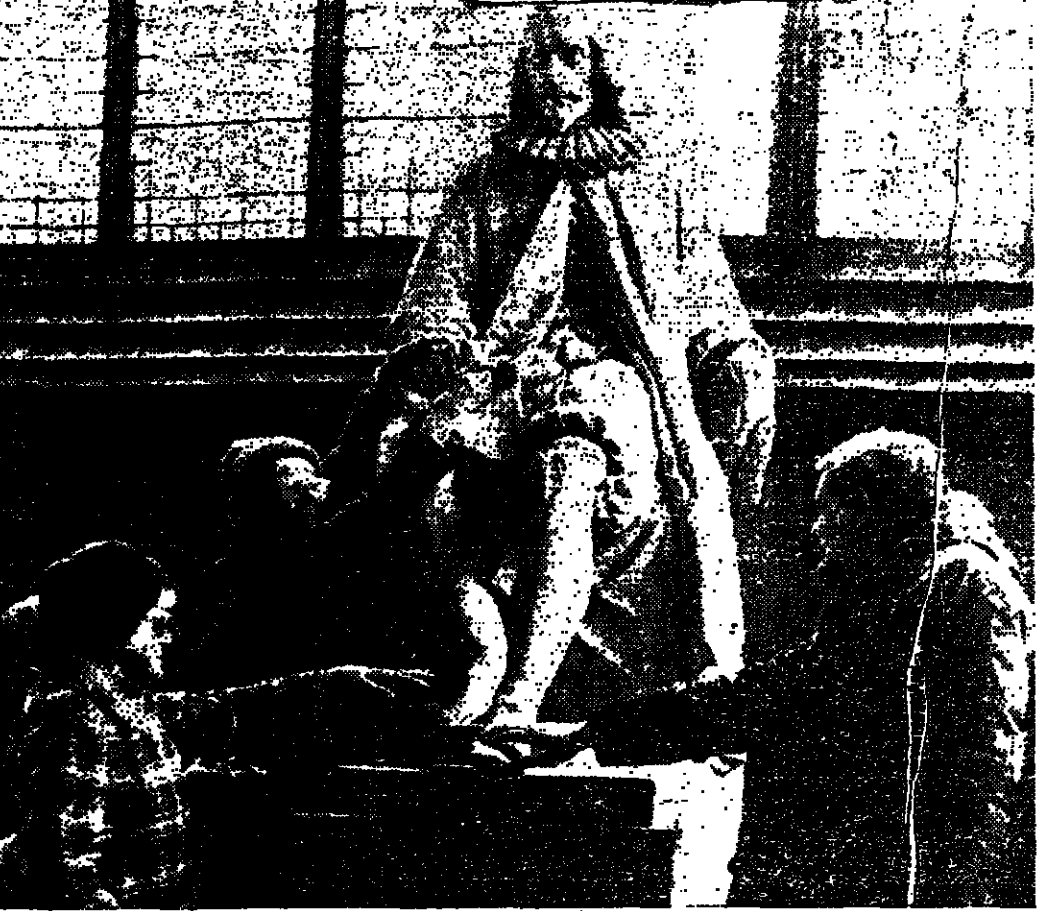
It is understood that Mrs Rosser was seen to be breathing by the mortuary attendant when he opened the coffin. A resuscitation team was then called in.

Mr David Faulkner, the Cheltenham district coroner, said: "A death was reported to me in the usual way and in accordance with standard procedures I gave authority for the body to be removed to the mortuary. It is a most unfortunate incident

Mr Lionel Rosser, of Park Road, Nailsworth, near Stroud, said: "We were divorced about three years ago. She has been ill for about 10 years."

Mr Rosser added that he was about to tell their two sons about their mother's death when he received a telephone message saying she was alive.

Dr Graham Voss of Beeches Green Health Centre, Stroud, confirmed that he had certified Mrs Rosser was dead but he declined to answer questions last night.



Photograph by Warren Harrison

Tours for the blind: Guided tours for the blind around Manchester and Chester were initiated yesterday as a contribution to the International Year for Disabled People (John Chartres writes from Manchester). A dozen blind people, some with guide dogs, visited some of Manchester's main attractions, including (above) the statue of Humfredo Chetham in the cathedral. The walks are being organized by British Heritage Tours, with trained guides provided by the English Tourist Board.

Mr du Cann argues for MPs curbing spending

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the Commons Select Committee on the Treasury and the Civil Service, yesterday outlined his proposals for altering the balance of power between Westminster and Whitehall by restoring to Parliament the right to grant or withhold funds for government spending programmes.

The scheme would involve the 14 new, departmentally related select committees which would be given the power to recommend to the Commons that reductions or alterations in the balance between financial estimates should be made, after such estimates had been presented to the Commons by Whitehall departments. The committees should not, however, be allowed to suggest increases in estimates.

Only by exerting influence on money matters would the select committees be able to exercise real authority, Mr du Cann, Conservative MP for Taunton, told the Commons Select Committee on Procedure (Supply).

He said that Parliament's failure to scrutinize expenditure was a disgrace:

"Our systems are complex, they are archaic, they are a denial of democracy.

Mr du Cann, who also chairs the liaison committee, consisting of all committee chairmen, which he dubbed a trade union of select committees, said Mr Joel Barnett, Labour MP for Heywood and Royton, a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury and chairman of the Commons public accounts committee, backed his views although other chairmen were less enthusiastic.

Challenged by an assertion from Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, that select committees acting in the way he suggested might become "parties within parties", Mr du Cann said he was proud to be a party man.

"Yet one has other loyalties. One has a greater loyalty to this institution [Parliament] and to the constitution."

Quiet requiem service for former head of MI6

By a Staff Reporter

The requiem service for Sir Maurice Oldfield was, as befits a man who spent much of his life in the twilight world of espionage, a quiet affair.

Figures from the secret world of intelligence joined friends and parishioners at St Matthew's Church in Westminster yesterday to pay their final respects to the former head of British intelligence before his coffin was taken to Over Haddon in Derbyshire for a family funeral service and burial.

Sir Maurice, who recently came out of retirement to act as Security Coordinator in Northern Ireland, died on March 11, aged 65.

He was, in the words of a close friend, Canon Peter Pilkington, headmaster of the King's School, Canterbury, who delivered the address at the service, a "devout and convinced Christian . . . who could have found a safer and less worrying path" than heading MI6.

Sir Maurice lived a brisk two minutes' walk from St Matthew's and took an active part in parish affairs.

Karate governing body lax, inquest jury says

An inquest jury yesterday criticized the Martial Arts Commission, a governing body of karate, for being lax in introducing new safety rules, after a fighter collapsed and died during a karate bout.

But it decided no one was to blame for the death of Mr Joseph Logue, aged 25, who suffered a heart attack, and returned a verdict of death by misadventure.

No doctor was present when Mr Logue collapsed during a competition at his home town of Bracknell, Berkshire, 10 days ago.

IRA shoots reserve policeman

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

A reserve policeman was shot by the IRA in the centre of Londonderry yesterday and was in a serious condition last night.

He was hit in the arm and abdomen by a single shot while on patrol with two other men. The area was nearly deserted because shops were closed for St Patrick's Day.

A police station in the city was stoned by youths after a rally in support of the Maze hunger strike and a bar in the predominantly Protestant Waterside area was stoned for about 10 minutes. Three customers were injured

In west Belfast, hunger strike supporters ignored the wishes of the organizers of a St Patrick's Day parade and joined the march, carrying banners.

Haughey optimism: Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, spoke of the widespread regret at the partitioning of Ireland in a St Patrick's Day message yesterday, and said closer cooperation between Ireland and Britain was the most hopeful development for some time (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

All men of good will regretted the divisions and enmities between Irish people. "The great majority, however, remain committed to the ideal of a sovereign, independent, united and peaceful Ireland based on justice and reconciliation".

Mr Reagan condemns Ulster violence

By Our Foreign Staff

President Ronald Reagan yesterday condemned the violence in Northern Ireland and urged Americans to question closely any appeal for financial or other aid from groups involved in the conflict.

In a St Patrick's Day statement, Mr Reagan said the United States "will continue to urge the parties to come together for a just and peaceful solution".

He added: "I pray and hope that the day will come when the tragedy of history which now afflicts Northern Ireland will be overcome, by faith, the courage and love of freedom and justice of the Irish.

"We will continue to condemn all acts of terrorism.

In another development in Washington, a group of prominent Irish-Americans has announced the formation of an organization to be called the Friends of Ireland.

The main signatories are Senator Edward Kennedy, Mr Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, Senator Daniel Moynihan and Mr Hugh Carey, Governor of New York.

The organization will be set up in a few weeks and initially its membership will be limited to members of the two houses of Congress.

The organization will rival the ad hoc Committee on Ireland set up by Congressman Mario Biaggi, that acts as an apologist for the Provisional IRA.

The organization says: "We take satisfaction that American support for the violence has declined.

'It's a knockout' man tells of missing dinner guest

Colin Wallace, who had helped organize an It's a Knockout television programme told a jury at Lewes Crown Court yesterday how he went to search for Jonathan Lewis, the man he is alleged to have killed.

He said Mr Lewis failed to appear at a dinner party given for his wife, Jane. During the party, Mr Wallace said, he felt ill and went home to get some medicine, and also drove around to see if he could find Mr Lewis.

The prosecution alleges that Mr Wallace, aged 37, of Dalloway Road, Arundel, killed Mr Lewis before the party during a row about his relationship with Mrs Lewis.

The jury has been told that Mr Wallace, information officer with Arun District Council, fell in love with Mrs Lewis, aged 29, his assistant, while they worked together organizing the It's a Knockout programme filmed in Arundel last July.

Mr Wallace, a married man, denies the manslaughter of Mr Lewis, an antiques dealer, whose body was recovered from a river. A charge of murder has been withdrawn.

Mr Wallace said yesterday that he had arranged a dinner for Mrs Lewis on August 5. Her husband asked to meet him beforehand, and he assumed it was to discuss the party.

They met at his home, and during the conversation Mr Lewis asked him if he was having an affair with Mrs Lewis. He said he was not.

There had been no argument and he had dropped Mr Lewis off in Arundel.

The trial continues today.

Building union rejects 'derisory' offer

By Our Labour Staff

The Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians yesterday formally rejected a pay offer which would mean a four-month pay freeze followed by a 5.75 per cent increase in minimum earnings.

The union's executive described the offer as derisory and requested the union's negotiators to secure an improved offer.

The two sides are in any case due to meet again on April 9 and union leaders, having made it clear that strike action was possible if the employers stood by their present offer, are hoping for an improved offer on that date.

The employers told the unions in negotiations this week that it would be suicidal for the industry if the union's claim was met in full. The union is seeking what it calls a substantial increase, consolidation of the minimum guaranteed bonus and a 35-hour week.

The building and civil engineering contractors told the unions that with unemployment in construction rising fast the workers had to choose between higher pay and keeping their jobs.

Beggar lived in Hyde Park for 12 years, report says

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A Pole lived for 12 years in the open in Hyde Park and survived by begging. A prisoner in Pentonville had 60 convictions in 30 years, nearly half of them since 1960 for ordering and eating meals in restaurants without paying.

Those are the stories of two men in a study published yesterday of persistent petty offenders.

The ear of one man arrested at Bethnal Green was half-severed from his head and the police felt that a hospital would be unwilling to deal with him in his drunken state. At the police station "he received the medical care he needed".

Part of the study, published yesterday for the Home Office Research Unit, was of some persistent offenders at Pentonville Prison. Two thirds of those serving one month or less in the sample had been born in Scotland or Ireland. Only one was a Londoner.

The report says that sentences of imprisonment given to persistent petty offenders often appeared out of proportion to the seriousness of the offence. But magistrates had few options. An extremely high proportion of those who returned most frequently to Pentonville were homeless and penniless.

Action taken at Pentonville to settle homeless offenders into accommodation showed that such a service could be helpful.

Persistent Petty Offenders: Home Office Research Study No 66 (Stationery Office, £3.90).

Single system for housing costs help is proposed

By Our Planning Reporter

Proposals for a new unified housing benefit, affecting about five and a half million households in Britain, are contained in a consultation document issued to local authorities yesterday by the Department of the Environment.

At present, help with housing costs is provided either through supplementary benefit, administered by the Department of Health and Social Security, or through local authority rent and rate rebates and allowances.

The consultation paper suggests that all such assistance should in future be administered by local authorities.

The Child Poverty Action Group said last night that the proposals would benefit pensioners and people paying high rents, at the expense of families with low incomes.

Reporter denies provocateur role

From Michael Horsnell
Middlesbrough

A former reporter for The Times denied yesterday that he had acted as an agent provocateur in persuading a young criminal to make contact with police officers during an investigation by the newspaper into police corruption, in the hope that one would eventually agree to meet him.

Mr Gareth Lloyd, who is now a BBC television reporter, also rejected claims at Teesside Crown Court, Middlesbrough, that he had concocted notes about the investigation after receiving "advice from certain persons".

Mr Lloyd was giving evidence under cross-examination by former Det Sergeant John Symonds, aged 45, who is accused of obtaining a total of £150 in 1969 from Mr Michael Perry, in return for helping him over an arrest.

Mr Symonds, who denies three corruption charges suggested that Mr Lloyd was eager to write a sensational story regardless of the evidence.

Mr Lloyd replied: "Do not be farcical, Mr Symonds. We were dealing with professional corrupt police officers."

Mr Symonds, who left the country in 1972 while on bail awaiting trial and only returned last May, is conducting his own defence. He asked why his name had not been included in notes taken by Mr Lloyd on October 27, 1969.

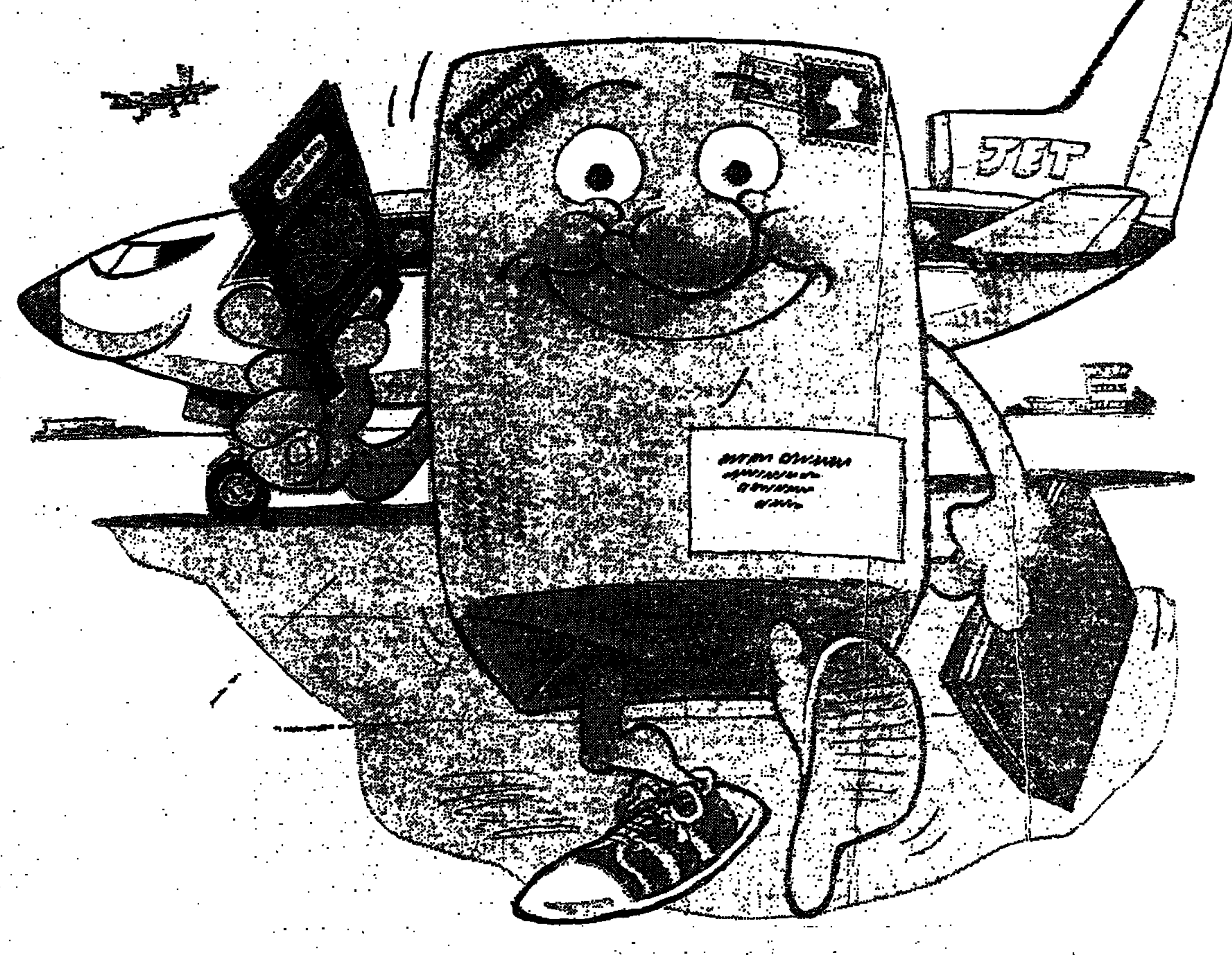
Mr Lloyd replied: "You were an extremely peripheral figure in the early stages of the investigation. We were interested in another police officer."

Mr Llyod denied that tape-recordings allegedly taken of conversations between Mr Perry and police officers, including Mr Symonds, had been partly erased in order to avoid the suggestion that he had acted as an agent provocateur.

All original tape-recordings and copies had been handed to the police. Mr Lloyd added: "The control of the police inquiry which followed was carried out by an extremely corrupt police officer now in jail and I do not know if he muddled up any of these tapes. Any muddling did not occur during my custody of them."

Mr Lloyd denied that tape had been given to Mr Perry to pay the detective. "I would not dream of giving you a farthing", Mr Lloyd said.

The hearing continues today.



Brain death criteria critic withdraws claim made on TV

By Nicholas Timmins

The doctor who claimed that two patients who fulfilled the British criteria for diagnosing brain death had in fact survived unreservedly withdrew the allegation yesterday.

The retraction by Dr Ronald Paul, consultant neurophysiologist at Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, of the claim he made in the second of two BBC television programmes about brain death, appears in a letter to be published in *The Lancet* this week.

It came as the two consultant neurosurgeons directly involved in the cases revealed in an interview with *The Times* that neither patient fulfilled the criteria and that neither was diagnosed as brain-stem dead.

Both patients had eye reflexes, which have to be absent before brain-stem death can be established.

Mr Michael Briggs, consultant neurosurgeon at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, said that in the case of one patient he had written "Not brain dead" on the patient's notes.

Mr William Whatmore, consultant neurosurgeon in the Coventry area, who saw both patients, said that in the case of the other patient "at no time was he considered brain dead and the tests were never formally applied".

Both neurosurgeons said they had no idea from where Dr Paul had originally got his information.

Dr Paul said yesterday he had made an honest mistake. "I misinterpreted some data I was given honestly and I took it at face value without double checking it as I should have done. I unreservedly withdraw the statement I made on television.

"This new evidence has convinced me completely, and I am sorry I even said what I did."

Dr Paul emphasized that his view remained unchanged that even if brain-stem death was proven satisfactorily, he would not say that was the point of total brain death. "Other tests are needed such as an electroencephalogram (e g) or an angiogram (a test of blood circulation in the brain)."

Dr Paul's withdrawal was welcomed by Professor Gordon Robson, secretary of the conference of medical royal colleges which drew up the criteria for the diagnosis of brain-stem death.

"The two cases referred to by Dr Paul appeared to be the only evidence to date that there might be flaws in the criteria. These cases have now been discredited. His statement reaffirms our confidence that the criteria are reliable."

Dr Paul's withdrawal came on the same day as two applications to the Court of Appeal in London failed. They could have provided the first detailed legal test of the British criteria for brain death.

The court held that doctors who switched off life-support systems could not be blamed for the deaths of two women in unrelated cases after assaults that have led to convictions for murder.

The court rejected an appeal by Richard Malcherek, aged 33, of Porton, Wiltshire, and an application for leave to appeal by Anthony Steel, aged 234, of Bradford, the applications being made on the same ground.

The court decided not to hear medical evidence, including evidence from Dr Paul, that would have questioned, and possibly established in case law, the British criteria for disguising brain-stem death.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said that in the circumstances of those cases: "It is not part of the task of this court to inquire whether the criteria are not a satisfactory code of practice".

Providing the doctors used generally accepted methods of treatment and acted conscientously they could not be held responsible for the deaths.

The court's decision was greeted with disappointment by some of the medical experts due to give evidence. Dr Christopher Pallis, reader in neurology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, a supporter o fthe criteria, said: "The brain death controversy is going to be with us for the next decade.

"Sooner or later a decision will have to be taken in court that the concept of brain-stem death is recognized as being as vadid a yardstick o fdeath as the conventional criteria of death".

A decision by the court "would have made the work of the people practising in this field rather easier if we had had some formal legal endorsement of the code".

One outcome of the whole controversy is that the conference of the royal medical colleges is likely next month to set up a working party to consider amendments to the code by which the criteria are applied.

Professor Robson said yesterday the items likely to be considered are: making a repeat of the tests mandatory, and providing that two consultants should do them.

Law Report, page 8

A member of a vigilante group keeping watch near a Bengali family's home in east London which has been stoned several times.

Photograph by Brian Harris

Racial harassment on council estates is condemned

By Lucy Hodges

Local councils are being asked to take a strong stand against racial harassment on housing estates and to punish the culprits, if necessary by charging them for damage or evicting them from their homes.

The Commission for Racial Equality published a forceful report yesterday, which is being sent to all local authorities, advising councils to act swiftly when they hear about racial attacks. They should obtain the details immediately and interview the victims, it says.

The report, prepared by the London Race and Housing Forum, contains nine case studies of families who have been subjected to harassment. One, the only black family on an estate, has endured threats of violence and even of death for years. The father is frighrened to leave his family alone, the report says.

One black family had excreta put through their flat's letter-box repeatedly; another man's car was damaged and set on fire twice. "A lot of caretakers are racialist and if left to their own devices would do nothing."

His car was extensively damaged and twice set on fire. The police told him they could do nothing and the housing department refused to take his complaint seriously.

"The family continues to live in a state of aerror and dejection", the report says.

A Bengali garment worker, interviewed by *The Times* last November in his damaged flat in Mile End, Tower Hamlets, is still there, having applied to move months ago. He claims that the police and the council have done nothing to help.

Since November the attacks, which included stones being thrown through windows and his windows and his children being punched, have diminished because the family is protected by a vigilante group.

The London Race and Housing Forum went into action because of the council's failure to act and because racial attacks are increasing. One of its first tasks was to deal with a complaint about excreta being put through a black family's letter box. That happened repeatedly and the group decided to investigate.

Such incidents used to be reported to community relations councils about once or twice a month, it said yesterday. But now they arise once or twice a week in London and places like Oldham and Birmingham.

Mr David Lane, chairman of the commission, said yesterday: "This type of harassment is one of the nastiest features of urban life today. I appeal to local authorities to take all possible steps to stamp it out."

The report says that local authorities have the most important role of any institution in dealing with attacks. They should develop coherent policies and coordinate all local agencies involved in helping families. A senior housing officer should be appointed to act as the coordinator.

Councils should keep a register of racial incidents and make racial harassment a ground for transfer.

The report favours the transfer of tenants only as a last resort and believes councils should do much more to penalize culprits.

Councils should consider inserting in tenancy agreements a clause saying that harassment will not be tolerated and should consider eviction on the grounds of nuisance. Repairs should be made immediately to show the victims that action is being taken and to prevent the perpetrators from feeling successful.

"Visible damage to the property such as broken doors and graffiti will be noticed by others on the estate and just as vandalism can often be contagious so too can Paki-bashing", the report says. Estates officers and caretakers should be involved in the council policy

"A lot of caretakers are racialist and if left to their own devices would do nothing". Mr Richard Seager, a housing officer for the commission, said.

Racial Harassment on Local Authority Housing Estates (CRE, Elliot House, 10-123 Allington Street, London SW1. free).

Children in hospital 'need home comforts'

By Frances Gibb

A radical approach to nursing children in hospital which allows parents and families to be present 24 hours a day if they wish is called for in a book to be published tomorrow.

The book, *The Other Side of Paediatrics*, by Miss June Jolly, a leading specialist in paediatric nursing, says: "For years it has been accepted practice to nurse children in isolation from their families, their friends and their environment."

But although each year medical and technical advances have improved sick children's outlooks, "something vital is missing".

Yesterday Miss Jolly said in London: "When I first started in nursing I was very concerned to see how children were separated from their parents; and changed from their ordinary clothes into hospital clothes, looking like little orphan Annies standing bewildered by their cots."

There were still too many hospitals where children were "shunted off" into adult wards, she said, because some branches of medicine were becoming more and more specialized and there was more new technology involved.

Even where children were put into children's wards, many nurses had not been taught to cope with teaching a family to manage a sick child, only with the sick child in bed, she said.

A new approach to the way children are nursed was vital, considering that more than a quarter of children in Britain spend at least one night in hospital before the age of seven.

Miss Jolly outlines in her book several changes that can be effected within current cost restrictions, including the abolition of visiting hours for parents and families; the provision of brightly painted wards with toys and goldfish and the use by nurses of flower-print smocks instead of starched uniforms.

Meal times and bath times can also be adjusted to be more like home, she says. "Why do you need to get a child up at 5.30 and give him lunch at 11.30? It is quite crazy. There is no reason why that cannot be made more normal."

In many wards children are given two full meals a day. "But how many children normally eat a meal with two vegetables at 5.30 in the afternoon? Most prefer something like beans on toast or fishfingers, which is cheaper and saves staff time."

She also suggests that nurses work 12-hour shifts, as happens in some hospitals in Canada, so that just two nurses are responsible for the child throughout the day.

Miss Jolly's approach, which she calls family-centred care, is a feature of many developing countries, from which she believes not only British nurses but also doctors and administrators have a lot to learn.

The Other Side of Paediatrics by June Jolly. Macmillan Press, £10.00 hardback, £4.95 paperback.

In brief

Closed shop rebel abandons fight

Miss Joanna Harris, aged 20, who was dismissed from her job as a poultry inspector by Sandwell council, West Midlands, because she would not join a trade union, will not take her case to an industrial tribunal.

She said yesterday: "I have decided not to go to the tribunal as there is little hope of reinstatement. Although I may be awarded compensation it would effectively come from the pockets of the ratepayers".

RAF base for Army

The former RAF base at Thorney Island, West Sussex, is to be taken over by the Army Chichester councillors were told yesterday. At present it is occupied by 700 Vietnamese refugees

Cover-up for the Queen

Hull has called of fa topless beauty contest which would have coincided with a visit in July by the Queen to open the Humber bridge.

'Body in cellar' funeral

The funeral service for Mrs Jeanette Traynor, who was killed by her husband 15 years ago, was held yesterday at Kirkcaldy crematorium, Fife. Her husband John, who was jailed last week, had hidden the body in a cellar.

Officer reprimanded

Sub-lieutenant Christopher Joice, aged 33, of HMS Ocelot, was severely reprimanded by a court martial at Portsmouth yesterday after being found guilty of exposing himself to four

Pilot rescued

A pilot who parachuted from his single-seater Hunter jet aircraft yesterday as it plunged into the sea off the Devon coast, was rescued by an RAF helicopter. He is a civilian employed at the Royal Navy Air Station, Yeovilton, Somerset.

New delay likely on 16-plus exam

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The introduction of the new single examinations system for pupils aged 16 is likely to be delayed further by difficulties that have arisen over the proposed grouping of the existing eight GCE boards and 13 CSE boards.

The Oxford Local Examinations Board has surprised its colleagues in the Cambridge, Oxford, and Southern Schools Examination Council (Cossec), one of the first and apparently stablest of the proposed groups set up to develop and administer the new 16-plus examination, by its announced intention to pull out of the group.

Dr Robert Lucas, a don at Keble College and chairman of the Oxford examinations board, said yesterday that the board feared that there would not be enough examining work for the four GCE boards who are members of Cossec, given the restrictions placed by the Department of Education and Science on the region they could serve.

Under the department's proposals, there would be four main examining groups for England, with Cossec restricted to the Midlands. Cossec has argued strongly for the establishment of only three examining groups, with Cossec covering an area from the South-West through the Midlands to East Anglia.

Dr Lucas said that under the department's plans, Cossec would lose a substantial number of its present clients. The Government had stated that although the new examining groups would be regionally based, each school would be free to choose to take the examinations of a group outside its own region.

However, in discussions with chief education officers over the past few weeks, it had become abundantly clear that although there was *de jure* freedom of choice, *de facto* there would not be, at least not for the maintained schools, Dr Lucas said. The financial consequences for the Oxford board of the likely loss of work entailed could be severe.

He pointed out that all boards were likely to lose work as a result of the planned new 16-plus examination. At the same time, the age group was declining.

The Oxford board feels particularly vulnerable within the Cossec group because it has no natural special constituency in the same way as, say, the Southern Universities board does in the South-west.

The Oxford board's proposals still have to be ratified by Oxford University.

The Government announced a year ago that the GCE O level and CSE examinations were to be replaced by a single system; 1985 was mentioned as a possible date for the introduction of the new examination, but some feel that 1987 is a more likely date.

APT failure 'grossly exaggerated'

By a Staff Reporter

British Rail yesterday said that some press reports alleging that the tilt mechanism in the Advanced Passenger Train (APT) might lead to coaches travelling on opposite directions touching, had been "grossly exaggerated".

An APT operating normally or with a faulty coach was within clearances allowed between passing trains. Experience was that a tilt failure was a rare occurrence, but primarily for passenger comfort a device had been fitted which automatically returned a tilted coach to the upright position.

That device would reduce still more the remote possibility that at a few places where clearances were restricted two faulty coaches might touch if they happened to jolt towards each other at the same time.

Welsh in poll against nuclear plans

From our Correspondent
Cardiff

A public inquiry was demanded yesterday after an opinion poll revealed that 80 per cent of people in Wales were against the dumping of nuclear waste.

The survey, which was carried out by the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance, showed that 62 per cent of 4,790 people questioned also thought the Government should spend more on the development of alternative energy

The group, which plans to launch a campaign to link with the forthcoming local government elections, argues that the Government has failed to convince the public of the merits of its nuclear power programme.

Mr Peter Segger, chairman of the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance, told a press conference in Cardiff that attempts by the pro-nuclear lobby to convince public meetings in Wales that there were no risks attached to the nuclear programme had clearly failed.

The group argues that with overwhelming opposition to burying nuclear waste in Wales a special public inquiry should be instituted under section 48 of the Town and Country Planning Act.

Radio clues led to tug, court is told

Radio mesages between two boats led customs officers to monitor and arrest the tug Sea Rover, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Frederick Maynard, for the Prosecution, told magistrates at Lewes, East Sussex, that interception of the transmissions began the events which led to the chase of the Sea Rover in the Channel on March 5.

Nine crew members and two other men are charged with fraudulently evading the prohibition of the importation of cannabis resin.

Mr Maynard said coastguards in Lowestoft intercepted messages from two boats, using the code names Yankee and Dory, last October.

The tug was monitored on trips between Holland, Southampton, Gibraltar and the Bay of Biscay before being stopped. French authorities recovered 60kg of cannabis

One defendant, Ernest Appleby, a cafe owner, of Henshaw Lane, Oldham, was given bail. The other 10 were remanded in custody for a week.

They are Brian Elton, aged 33, of Lower Lime Road, Oldham; Wilfred Duffy, aged 30, a self-employed builder, of North Croft, Flitton, Oldham; the captain, Antonius Ollhock, aged 50; Christian Jansen, aged 36; Mohammed Abdul Nasir, aged 42; Abdul Salaam Likhal, aged 32; and Robert Morris, aged 30, a Canadian engineer.

Need for swift interception

Strategic importance of Stornoway

From Ronald Faux
Stornoway

Behind the public inquiry into Ministry of Defence plans to modernize the Royal Air Force base at Stornoway lies a larger issue of Nato defence strategy.

The inquiry has been called because of objections by the Western Isles Island Council and entered its second day at Stornoway yesterday with evidence about work camps and fuel stores which residents fear could disrupt their lives and take up valuable farm land.

But the wider question of why Nato wants to develop the base lay unexamined in detail and outside the scope of the inquiry.

Some objectors find it hard to believe that Nato is prepared to spend at least £40m on a base that would lie idle except for occasional exercises or during times of international tension and war.

The area of greatest interest to Nato lies well north of Stornoway, above the sea area separating Iceland from the Faroes; where about 250 Soviet aircraft are intercepted by the Royal Air Force each year.

The Soviet aircraft, mainly Bears and Badgers, fly into the North Atlantic from the expanding Soviet base on the Kola Peninsula. Occasionally the Nato radar screens pick up a particularly fast-moving dot which is interpreted as a TU 26 bomber, codenamed Backfire, and regarded as one of the most lethal strike weapons the Soviets possess.

Its stand-off missile has a range of more than 150 miles, making it essential to have a Nato base as near as possible to the area where it can be intercepted. Stornoway is the only candidate.

Although other RAF bases in Britain are only a few extra minutes away by Phantom or Tornado aircraft, those minutes are seen as vital if a Soviet attack was launched through that back door to the United Kingdom.

Another worry among objectors is that a left-wing government in Iceland could force the Americans to quit the Nato base at Keflavik, obliging them to regroup on the expanded base at Stornoway.

The ministry, however, says it has received absolute assurances that the Americans would not quit the base, used for interception missions in the Iceland-Greenland gap.

Defence strategists also point out that it would be better for Stornoway to have any future conflict fought over the Iceland-Faroes gap than to allow the Mach 2 Soviet bombers time to get closer and perhaps to be intercepted overhead.

That again is outside the inquiry's scope, however, and Mr J. L. Marshall, principal planning officer, opened the council's case yesterday by describing the local dangers of upgrading the airfield.

There was no single flight path, he said, under which few people would be subject to noise and nuisance. Many more people at Stornoway would be affected than at other military airfields in Britain.

The hearing continues today.

Changes in 1981 archaeology awards

By Norman Hammond
Archaeology Correspondent

Changes in the British Archaeological Awards scheme, now in its fifth year, have been announced for entries in 1981. Several awards have been redefined, and there will be only six awards this year.

The Times award, which has been presented to the business or commercial concern making the most significant contribution to a British archaeological project, is not being offered this year.

A more general award, for the best sponsorship of archaeology, is being offered by the *Illustrated London News*, which has until now rewarded the best public presentation of a project.

The BBC *Chronicle* award is again being offered for the best project carried out by volunteers, and *Country Life* is offering a new award for the best project by a professional team such as a local authority or trust archaeological unit.

Two awards for children will be offered again, the British Gas Young Rescue Award for an individual project by one or more children, and the Lloyds Bank Schools Award for the best project by a school.

The final award will again be the Legal and General "Silver Trowel", an open award for the project showing the greatest initiative and originality. Those not included in the other five competitions can be entered direct for that award.

The two children's competitions require preliminary approval of projects, and entry forms can be obtained from the Council for British Archaeology, 112 Kennington Road, London SE11 6RE; approval must be obtained before the end of May.

Entries for the *Chronicle* award close on May 15, so that the BBC can visit likely finalists with a camera team in the summer, and the other competitions, including final entries for the children's awards, close on September 1.

Details of adult awards can be obtained from British Archaeological Awards, 15A Bull Plain, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 1DX. Nomination of entries, with the consent of the entrant, is encouraged, as is entry by the competitor in question.

ATV chooses Nottingham for studio

By a Staff Reporter

ATV Midlands is to buy a 17-acre site in Nottingham for its East Midlands television centre, which will form half the dual region operation as designated by the Independent Broadcasting Authority when it renewed ATV's franchise last December.

The site is on the Nottingham ring road and has good communications with the West Midlands, the other half of the franchise area.

A declaration of intent to buy was signed yesterday by representatives of ATV and of Nottingham City Council.

The main studio centre, from which half the total programme output will be produced, is expected to be completed by the autumn of 1983.

As a temporary measure, ATV will transmit regional programmes from studios at Giltbrook, near Nottingham, from the start of the contract period next January.

Bradford aims to stop estate becoming a slum

Tenants of a council estate at Bradford, West Yorkshire, are to be given a say in the management of the estate in an effort to stop it becoming a slum.

The city council's personnel panel has approved neighbourhood management for the 30-year-old Thorpe Edge estate, where nearly a quarter of tenants in one part have asked to leave.

The aim is to improve the environment and standard of repair in the worst area to check the decline in the rest. It is intended to form a residents' group to coordinate the activities of all organizations

An extra five staff will be employed at an annual cost of £23,000, for five years. Three quarters of the money will come from the Government

Teachers' dossier renews attack on spending cuts

By Our Education Correspondent

The National Union of Teachers publishes today a dossier on education spending cuts which, it says, provides further evidence of their devastating effects on educational provision in schools.

Cuts in staffing mean that in many local authorities' supply teachers will not now be provided in schools for the first week of a teacher's absence, or until a number of teachers are off sick at the same time, the union says. That could only increase the number of children being sent home

Thousands of teachers' jobs were due to be cut from the end of the summer term, and in most cases the numbers were well above what could be justified by the fall in the number of pupils, it says.

The effects on the curriculum were clear. Pupils were being given less choice of subjects; there were more classes with pupils of mixed ages; remedial classes were being cut: and some subjects were being dropped altogether.

Science and modern languages had been particularly hard hit by big cuts in the number of technicians

Missing kidney patient found in station hotel

A search for a man believed to be close to death from kidney didease ended yesterday when he was found safe and well in an hotel at Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr Clive Grimstone, aged 30, who left his home in Norbury, South London, 12 days ago after deciding not to continue twice-weekly hospital dialysis sessions, was spotted by a receptionist at the Royal Station Hotel.

Mr Grimstone, who had booked into the hotel last Wednesday under his real name, did not seem to realize there had been a big search for him.

Det Constable Colin Hancock, of Newcastle transport police, who went to the hotel, said Mr Grimstone apologized for the trouble he had caused. "He seemed very happy and said he had just wanted to get away for two days. We got him to telephone his parents, and we put him on a train

'Operating theatre' built in an attic

From Our Correspondent
Leamington

A hospital filing clerk became so obsessed with surgery that he built a secret operating theatre in an attic fitted with £3,000 worth of medical equipment from the hospital.

Magistrates in Leamington Spa Warwickshire, heard that Mr Wilkinson, aged 17, of Pennywicket, Ilmington Road, Armscote, near Stratford-on-Avon, built up a hoard of scalpels, clamps and hundreds of operating instruments.

He also took oxygen cylinders, trolleys and chemicals, and used his "operating room" to carry out experiments on rats and rabbits.

He was caught when a porter at Hertford Hill Hospital, Warwick, saw him loading an anaesthetic trolley into a car. Later he took police to the theatre he had built in the attic of an outbuilding at his girlfriend's home.

Mr Philip Varley, for the prosecution, said: "The amount of equipment found there was staggering."

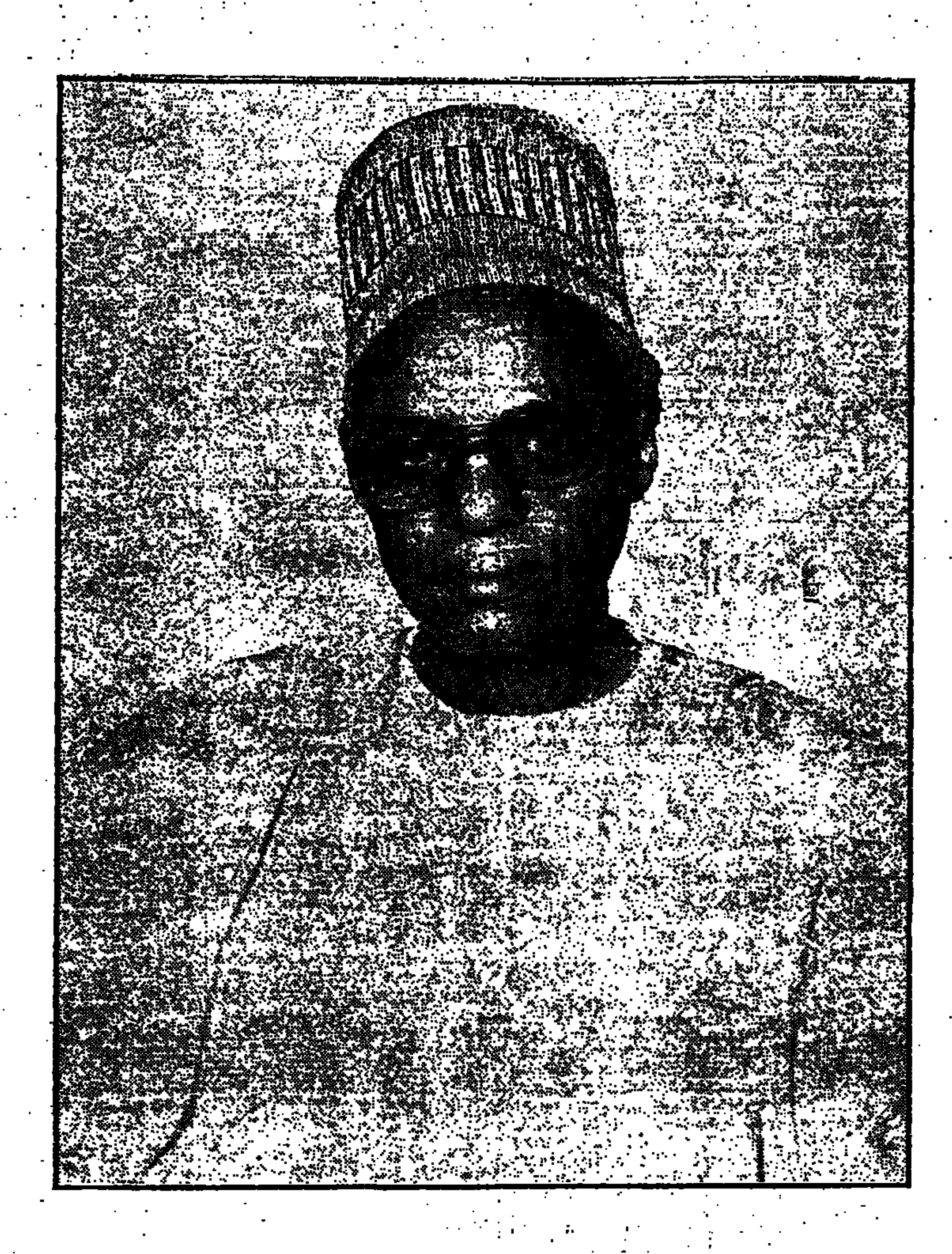
In a statement Mr Wilkinson said he had started experimenting on animals as a hobby. "I then decided that I wanted more equipment.

Mr Eric Whitehead, for the defence, said that Mr Wilkinson had become obsessed with various hobbies during his school years.

"He was directed into hospital work through the job opportunities scheme.

Sentence on Mr Wilkinson, who pleaded guilty to the theft of the equipment, was postponed for social inquiries and psychiatric reports.

هكذا من الأصل



Standard Chartered Bank welcomes Alhaji Shehu Shagari President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the occasion of his State Visit to the United Kingdom.

The Standard Chartered Bank Group has maintained a substantial banking presence in Nigeria since 1894 and today is involved in the country's trade and economic development through more than one hundred and fifty banking offices of its associate company, the First Bank of Nigeria Limited. In welcoming President Shagari to the United Kingdom, we are pleased to offer our continuing co-operation and support in the conduct of international commerce.





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EEC countries agree to issue uniform passports by 1985

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 17

After more than six years of quarrelling, EEC member states have taken their first modest, if still almost entirely symbolic, step towards the creation of European citizenship.

Foreign ministers of the Ten meeting in Brussels, have agreed to use their "best endeavours" to introduce a uniform wine-coloured EEC passport no later than January 1, 1985.

This does not mean, however, that the ancient proud boast of the peoples of the Roman Empire—*civis Romanus sum*—is about to be revived under the sway of the Treaty of Rome.

The new passport some of the technical details of which still have to be worked out, will neither supplant national passports, nor transfer the authority for issuing them from member states to some central EEC body.

All that will happen is that the present national passports of varying appearance and design will be given a common format and the lay-out of their contents will be standardized.

Originally, the introduction of such a passport—first approved in principle by EEC heads of government in Paris in 1974—was seen as merely the first step in the realization of the much more ambitious concept of a "passport union".

This would entail the abolition of all frontier controls within the EEC, and their replacement with a uniform system of control at the Community's common external frontier. In other words, people would enjoy the same frontier. In other words, in the existing customs union.

A traveller from a non-EEC state, having once entered the Community, would be free to pass unchecked from one member state to another.

The impossibility of accommodating Britain's strict immigration controls within such a system was only one of many practical difficulties which quickly relegated the noble concept of a "passport union" to the cemetery of the EEC's lost causes.

Indeed, so attached do member states remain to the trappings of political sovereignty that even the apparently harmless Euro-symbolism represented by a standard EEC passport was nearly snuffed out by the demons of national pride and prejudice.

Member states argued over the colour of the passport, the languages in which its contents should be written, and whether the words "European Community" should come above or below the name of the issuing state on the cover.

The jacket of the new 32-page document, it has now been decided, will be burgundy in colour. The European Community will take precedence over the name of the member state, but will be printed in slightly smaller type. National emblems, such as the British royal coat of arms, will be retained.

The descriptive data about the bearer will be printed in English, French and the tongue of the issuing state. A glossary at the back will translate the terms used into all eight official Community languages.

Language was one of the most difficult questions to resolve, and some minor points remain to be settled. The Germans, in particular, are loath to concede even the appearance of superior status for French and English.

The British are to be granted some flexibility in meeting the date for the issue of the new passport, which they want to synchronize with the introduction of a laminated plastic card with a machine-readable edge that will replace the present page containing data about the bearer.

Americans fear Libya heads the way of Afghanistan

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 17

Libya-watchers in Washington are inclined to discount the danger that Colonel Gaddafi *will turn his* country into a Soviet satellite. They believe that Libya may go the way of Afghanistan; that Colonel Gaddafi may be overthrown in a coup and replaced with a leader more amenable to Soviet wishes.

The colonel is fervently against communism because it is an atheistic, *secular religion* and antithetical to Islam. His constant differences with the Arab Baath Socialist Party in Iraq (now) and in Syria (formerly) derived from its secularism.

He has no wish to lose his independence to Russia, and relies *on the Soviet Union* and East Europe merely as arms suppliers. However, there are at least 2,000 Russian and East European advisers in Libya, Soviet influence on the armed forces is all-pervasive, and he is so isolated in the world and among the Arabs that he is forced to associate with the Russians far more than is safe.

Colonel Gaddafi suffers from one of the world's best documented cases of egomania and believes that he can safely ride the tiger. American specialists are less sure.

The Soviet Union would like to use Libyan ports as bases for the fleet, particularly their submarines. They would like to use Libyan airfields, and Colonel Gaddafi has steadfastly refused them. A further source of Soviet dissatisfaction with him is his invasion of Chad.

The colonel announced some time ago that Chad and Libya would be merged. He believes that the Islamic northern part *of that* country is an ethnic and geographic extension of Libya, which he sees as the destined nucleus of a greater Maghreb Islamic state. The annexation has rattled all the dovecotes in Africa and the Russians are not sure that they want to be seen to be associated with it.

With Soviet advisers attached to Libyan military units now in Chad, that association is ineluctable. On the other hand, from the Soviet point of view, Libya is a main source of hard currency and, at least some of the time, a useful card to play in the poker game with Washington.

It is estimated here that the Russians probably get 10 per cent of their foreign exchange from selling arms to Libya, which pays in dollars. The Russians can sell any amount of equipment, and the Libyans will pay for Russian arms going to other countries, too. For instance, Libya has been replacing all the MiG 23s that Syria loses in air battles with Israel, or by accident.

This is rather like the American relationship with Saudi Arabia or, earlier, with Iran. The main difference is that the Americans are getting back oil. Those are American dollars that are paying for American arms. The Russian sales to Libya represent a net gain, and apparently the Libyans pay a top price for everything.

Lastly, the Libyans *also sell* oil to East Europe at favourable rates, thus sparing the Russians from helping their allies and allowing them to export their own oil westwards at more favourable terms.

The Libyans have accumulated enormous stocks of Soviet arms, far more than other armies of comparable size would need. There are some alarmists who fear that the stockpiles are needed for the Soviet Army, if ever it decided to move into Libya; but other experts here think the explanation is simpler.

The total Libyan armed forces number about 50,000; but Colonel Gaddafi recently decided to abolish the Army and replace it with a people's militia of the entire population in arms. He intends to have a militia of 500,000 by the end of the year, and oil companies have reported that their workers disappear for weeks on end for training.

Such *a militia needs* more arms than a regular army. Furthermore, standards of maintenance are very low. Libya has 3,000 tanks; but no more than 1,000 are operational. These calculations are based on the Libyans' performance in the invasion of Chad.

One expert said that the Libyans use arms, including aircraft and tanks, the way an American family uses paper plates on a picnic. Equipment is abandoned when it fails. There is always a further supply of tanks, lorries and weapons.

The Chad civil war continues. The Libyans occupy the north, but Mr Hissene Habré, the former Defence Minister, still controls the south. He pulled out of the capital when Libya occupied it in support of President Oueddei in November.

The fighting costs the Libyans eight or a dozen casualties a week, and that could cause serious difficulties eventually. There were reports last December of demonstrations in Benghazi in which the tribes there demanded blood money from Colonel Gaddafi's tribe to pay for men killed in Chad.

The Libyans are said to have put up a better fight in Chad than they did in Uganda (when an attempt to rescue President Amin ended in fiasco); but Mr Habré's forces were the equal of the Libyans. They were defeated by numbers and equipment, not by the quality of the Libyan Army.

Colonel Gaddafi still controls the Libyan armed forces, and the country. There was, however, an attempted coup in Tobruk last August and the recent economic upheavals may have caused considerable discontent.

'Lies and slander' on Soviet role in hijack

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 17

The Russians rejected as slanderous today American accusations that the Soviet Union was partly responsible for the delay in ending the 13-day hijacking of a Pakistani aircraft to Damascus.

After Soviet Embassy protests in Washington last night over an official statement issued by the State Department, Tass and the Soviet Government newspaper *Izvestia* categorically denied that no effort was made to resolve the incident while the aircraft was at Kabul airport.

An *Izvestia* commentator said that the Afghan authorities had done everything they could to ensure the safety of the passengers in spite of difficult conditions.

He said American "inventions" about the Soviet Union were clearly needed by the American Administration "to aggravate the situation even after the event and portray in the most distorted light our country's attitude towards the hijacking of aeroplanes and other such acts of international terrorism".

The paper linked the State Department charge that the Soviet and Afghan authorities *had stood by while the* hijackers freely showed themselves at the airport with President Reagan's accusations that the Russians were helping international terrorism, and called both lies and slander.

The State Department yesterday repeated accusations by *President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan* that the Afghan authorities were helping the hijackers and giving them arms. "They (the hijackers) arrived with pistols; they left with machine guns", a spokesman said.

A Tass commentator, also rejecting the State Department's remarks, said the Russians did not control the air flights over Kabul or Islamabad and, unlike the Americans, did not interfere *in other countries'* internal affairs.

Tass added that the Americans were still harbouring a Lithuanian and his son who killed an air stewardess when they hijacked a Soviet aircraft to Turkey and whose extradition the Russians have persistently pressed for. The agency said this showed that the United States opposed efforts to fight international terrorism.

Third man mystery: The Pakistan Federal Investigation Agency has said two people were responsible for the hijacking of the aircraft on March 2, but curiously made no mention of a third person, who was all along reported to be involved in the hijacking (Hasan Akhtar writes from Islamabad).

According to an official report from Karachi, the federal agency registered cases against the leader of the hijackers, Salamullah alias Tippu (Alamgir as he *called himself* while holding the passengers hostage for 13 days) and Nasser Jamal, one of the hijackers.

The maximum punishment provided under martial law for hijacking is death and one man, involved in an attempted hijacking incident, was sent to *the gallows last year.*

Ambassador has name posted by US club

From Michael Leapman
New York, March 17

Sir Nicholas Henderson, the venerable British Ambassador in Washington, has been publicly arraigned here by having his name posted on the board of the exclusive Metropolitan Club as an alleged debtor. His spokesman in Washington says it is all a dreadful mistake and that Sir Nicholas has never been to the club, although he was given an honorary membership last year.

The amount of the debt, reported today *in the New York Post,* is $50.61 (£22.80). The notice on the board says that Sir Nicholas has been suspended from the club because of his failure to pay it.

The embassy spokesman said today that Sir Nicholas had received a bill for a "house charge" of *that amount* about three weeks ago. He wrote, pointing out that it must be an error, since he had never crossed the club's elegant portal, just round the corner from Fifth Avenue—by Central Park and the Plaza Hotel. No reply to his letter has been received, the spokesman said.

Sir Nicholas first knew of his public pillorying on the notice board when reporters phoned the embassy to ask about it. At the club today, nobody was immediately available to comment on the dispute.

The *New York Post* printed a waspish item in its gossip column about the alleged debt: "If Sir Nicholas can't pay his bills at the club, how can he be expected to scrape up the fare to attend the royal wedding?" the columnist wondered.

Sir Nicholas, a former ambassador to France and Germany, is 61. He was brought out of retirement in 1979 to replace Mr Peter Jay as Ambassador in Washington.



Mr Joseph Subic, one of the Americans who were held hostage in Iran, on honeymoon in the United States Virgin Islands with his English bride, Alison.

Iran dispute stopped by ayatollah

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, March 17

Tehran's warring political leaders and the pages of the national press today observed an obedient silence after last night's orders from Ayatollah Khomeini to stop their battle of words.

But close aides of President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr claimed to have won a clear cut moral victory in the Ayatollah's ten-point statement.

"It is the most political decision the Iman (Ayatollah Khomeini) has made," said one official in the President's office. "It doesn't mean the end of the war but it is very symbolic. Personally I am very satisfied."

Besides the ayatollah's *clearly expressed support* for Mr Bani-Sadr as commander-in-chief, political sources pointed to another "very important" decision made by the ayatollah—the virtual dismissal of three Muslim hardliners from the Supreme Defence Council headed by the President.

Little noticed in the initial reaction to the ayatollah's statement last night was his order that the council's formation should accord with the Constitution. Official spokesmen confirmed today that this meant that the Speaker of Parliament, Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanajani, and two MPs, one the son of Iran's second highest ranking clergyman, would have to withdraw.

Political observers are now waiting to see whom Ayatollah Khomeini will choose as his representative on a three-man "*reconciliation council*". Whoever it is will be able to tip the scales in favour of one side or the other.

Supporters of Mr Bani-Sadr acknowledged that what they had gained from the statement was bought at a heavy price—the public silence of the President. His ability to rally the public with hard-hitting speeches against the dominant fundamentalists was his strongest, if not his only political weapon.

Peace mission: A group of non-*aligned* countries will visit Tehran and Baghdad in the first week of April to try to end the Iran-Iraq war (Kuldip Nayar writes from Delhi).

Both Tehran and Baghdad have agreed to receive the group, formed by India, Cuba, Zambia and the Palestine Liberation Organization, as designated at the Non-aligned Conference in Delhi last month.

Most of the Islamic countries present at the Non-Aligned Conference, felt that a political approach would be far better than a religious one. The last initiative, which floundered, was by a nine-member delegation of Islamic nations led by President Sekou Touré of Guinea.

The Islamic proposals envisaged a ceasefire by March 12; withdrawal of foreign troops within nine months; demilitarization of vacated areas; supervision of the ceasefire by Islamic countries; and negotiations between Iran and Iraq under United Nations auspices.

West Germany denounces British fisheries veto

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 17

Britain appeared to be heading for a serious clash with its EEC partners over the future of *the Community's* fisheries policy at next week's summit of heads of government in Maastricht in Holland.

In an attempt to avert a full-scale row, the foreign ministers were trying here tonight to find a way of enabling Britain to lift its veto on a fisheries *agreement with Canada,* in which the West German Government is keenly interested.

Herr Klaus von Dohnanyi, of West ermany, gave a warning that, if the veto remained, the consequences would be "very serious and very dangerous".

The Canada agreement would allow EEC trawlers—in practice, mainly German ones—to catch about 14,500 tonnes of fish, most of it valuable cod, in waters off Labrador and Newfoundland. In return tariffs on Canadian fish exports to the EEC *would be cut.*

General Viola confident of better Washington links

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 17

General Roberto Viola, the President-designate of Argentina, who is in Washington on an official visit, said yesterday that he was "absolutely sure" that relations between the two countries would improve. He is to be sworn into office at the end of the month, five years after the coup that established the military regime.

The General saw Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, yesterday and is seeing President Reagan this afternoon. He is also seeing Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence, and congressional leaders.

General Viola said yesterday that in his talks with Mr Haig "we spoke of all the problems in the relations between the two countries. The *main goal* of my conversation was to establish very fluid communication channels between the United States and Argentina, to upgrade relations to an optimum level".

These relations have not been very cordial of late, because of human rights abuses in Argentina. The military government that overthrew President *Maria* Estella Perón in 1976, severely suppressed domestic opposition and was constantly criticized for it by President Carter's Administration.

In its defence, the Argentine Government claimed that the country was sinking into anarchy under the Perón regime, that left-wing terrorism would destroy the state, if it were not stopped and that in war, all means were justified.

The Carter Administration rejected these claims but they have been accepted by President Reagan.

Call to Vatican: Argentina *drafted a message* today objecting to parts of the Pope's proposed settlement of a border dispute with Chile, *and called* for further mediation by the Vatican, western diplomatic sources said. Chile accepted the proposal last January, after 19 months of mediation (AP reports from Buenos Aires).

The dispute, which led the two countries to war *in* 1978, is over 10 islands at the southern tip of South America and its surrounding waters.

Señor Guillermo Moncayo and General Ricardo Etchverry Boneo, the Argentine delegates to the mediation talks, were assigned to deliver the Government's "observations on the Holy See's suggestions" to Cardinal Antonio Samore.

Portugal protests to Cuban envoy

Lisbon, March 17.—Extra police were posted round the Cuban Embassy in Lisbon today and Senhor Andre Gonçalves Pereira, the Portuguese Foreign Minister, protested strongly to the Cuban Ambassador over an incident in Havana in which the Portuguese *envoy had been alleged* to have a CIA link.

Fossil dating back 350 million years

Moscow, March 17.—Soviet geologists working on the coast of the Barents Sea in the high Arctic have found a "sensational" fossil image of plant life dating back 350 million years, the Tass news agency reported from Arkhangelsk. Its dimensions, 13in long and 20in wide compared to the usual matchbox s[illegible] of previous fossils

Britain not keen to remain in Belize

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Britain is reluctant to leave its troops in Belize after the former colony becomes independent, as is being requested by Mr George Price, the Prime Minister.

The British want to have most of the 1,600 troops home within a year from the swampy *environs of Belize.*

Speaking on Belize radio after announcing details on Monday of the outline agreement aimed at settling the Guatemala-Belize territorial dispute, Mr Price said he hoped Britain's 1,600 troops would remain in Belize to guarantee security after independence.

In line with United Nations wishes, Britain hopes Belize will be independent by roughly Christmas this year.

Until then, the Foreign Office wants to avoid committing itself on the troops: "We will do what is necessary at the time," a spokesman said yesterday. "We will not leave Belize in the lurch, but we have said all along that an agreement with Guatemala would be Belize's best security."

In the meantime, details of the outline agreement have received tepid public response in Belize and Guatemala. Newspapers *in Guatemala are accusing* its negotiators of selling its territorial aspirations in exchange for a small Caribbean sea channel, a patch of seabed and access to a dirt-track through Belize.

The Belize press, for its part, sees in these aspects of the outline agreement infringements on *Belize's* sovereignty.

Parliamentary report, page 9

US Army denies its germ test was lethal

San Francisco, March 17.—The United States Government denied in court yesterday that a germ warfare test, which had created a bacteria-laden fog here 30 years ago, had killed Mr Edward Nevins, a wealthy businessman.

Relatives of Mr Nevins, who developed a fever four days after the test and died a month later, are seeking about £5m in damages from the United States Army, which acknowledges that 800,000 people were exposed to the bacteria.

For six days in September, 1950, a navy ship sprayed San Francisco with a bacteria-laden fog, according to papers given to relatives under the Freedom of Information Act. Eighteen people were treated in hospital for bacteria traces.

The Army said the test was carried out to see how bacteria aimed from the sea at an American city would be distributed. Two types of bacteria *were used.* One is known as serratia and Mr Nevins, who was 75, was said by doctors to have died of serratia pneumonia.

Mr John Kern, a lawyer representing the Government told Judge Samuel Conti yesterday that a different type of bacteria had killed Mr Nevins and not the army bacteria, which had been declared harmless by an army panel.

The Government intends to call doctors and germ warfare experts to defend the test on national security grounds.

In March, 1977, an army report, surrendered to a subcommittee of the Senate committee on human resources, disclosed that the Army had conducted 239 "open air" germ warfare tests between 1949 and 1969. These included the San Francisco test.

In some tests, inert chemicals had been used, in others live bacteria presumed to be harmless, the report said.

This report, describing the San Francisco test, said the navy ship had sprayed the bacteria, named as serratia marcescens, into the ocean.

One hospital in the area reported 11 cases of *infection,* caused by the bacteria.

Senator Richard Schweiker, the Health and Human Services Secretary, said it was "very risky" to assume germs released into a populated area could ever be considered safe.—Reuter.

Back to the clothesline in California

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, March 17

Clotheslines are to make an unsightly but welcome come-back this week in—of all places—the affluent California college community of Palo Alto, as part of a novel campaign aimed at saving energy, by not using electric dryers.

The city fathers decided to quash an ordinance which has been in existence for five years prohibiting residents from airing their freshly laundered linen in public. Offenders in Palo Alto, home of the celebrated Stanford University about 40 miles south of San Francisco, faced stiff fines if they dared to break the law.

Now, says Mrs Jeanne Clinton, manager of the city's conservation and solar energy programme, householders can legally let it all hang out. She estimates that they can save up to £18 a year if they do this instead of using electric dryers.

Washing, billowing in the breeze, is an apt symbol to remind citizens to conserve energy, she notes, adding: "It plants the idea in people's minds. Even the slightest individual savings of energy can have a cumulative effect."

Noting that washing lines have been a part of civilization for some considerable time, Miss Clinton adds: "Now we're going back to basics. . . . Remember the nice, fresh smell of sheets that had been put out on the line."

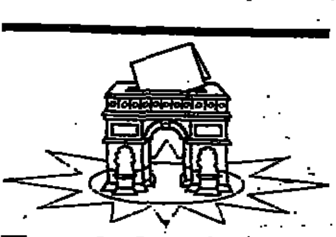
Councillor Leland Levy, a staunch supporter of bringing back the lines, said he does *not expect Palo Alto to become* the clothesline capital of the United States: "Some people worry that Palo Alto will resemble Marseilles, with underclothes hanging from apartments and balconies. I don't think it will happen."

Communists ruled out as Socialist partners

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 17

In his first appearance on television in the current election campaign, M Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist candidate, replied categrricaliy that there was no question under present circumstances of Communists being given ministerial responsibility, if he became President next May. Communist participation in a left-wing government would only become possible when that party had abandoned its present hard line on home and foreign affairs.

The threat of the Communist participation in a Socialist-led government is the weaest point in M Mitterrand's platform,



French Presidential Election

and the one, naturally, most exploited by his opponents. He could not afford to allow uncertainty about his intentions on this point to endure without serious damage to his electoral prospects.

M Mitterrand did not, however, maek it clear with what maority he would govern if he were elected.

M Mitterrand seizes opportunity of using 'Pravda' article to discredit his principal rival

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 17

The large pebble cast by *Pravda* into the French electoral duckpond last Friday continues to cause increasingly wider ripples. M François Mitterrand, the Socialist candidate for the presidency, said on television last night that he understood why the Soviet newspaper, that is to say the Soviet Government, was pleased with President Giscard d'Estaing.

"It was natural that he should receive a wage for his journey to Warsaw." M Mitterrand said: "Why is *Pravda* displeased with me? Because I did not wait 11 days to protest against the invasion of Afghanistan, like the outgoing candidate."

A further reason for Soviet displeasure was that he had publicly drawn attention to the threat to Western Europe from Soviet SS20 medium range missiles. Another consideration which weighed in the Soviet Government's attitude was that it usually favoured the man in power.

M Giscard d'Estaing earlier told representatives of 14 regional newspapers — with reference to the *Pravda* article —that "the only votes I ask for are those of French men and women. I ask for no others".

The Soviet daily, in a report on the campaign, had said: "M Giscard d'Estaing has gained personal authority as a cautious and reserved politician, in particular in the international arena."

The *Pravda* article came after the strictures of M Jacques



M Mitterrand: Only wants votes from the French.

Chirac and M Mitterrand against the "weakness" of the Government's policy towards Russia, and its failure to react energetically to Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

M François-Poncet, the Foreign Minister, in a full page interview in *France Soir* yesterday, weighed into the controversy. "That appreciation is made not only in Moscow but in Washington, Bonn, London and Geneva and indeed in all the major capitals", he said.

"The voice of France is heard. Our country counts in the affairs of the world. What is this due to? Largely to the authority, self-control, experience and personal prestige of the President of the Republic.

"There is only one quarter in which this evidence is contested: among the candidates to the Elysée. The reasons are easy to understand."

The *Pravda* article, after its positive judgment on President Giscard d'Estaing's policy, mentioned the economic situation and went on to say that "the political opponents of M Giscard d'Estaing made him carry responsibility for unemployment, the trade deficit, and inflation". But it did not identify itself with these opponents.

Of M Chirac, the paper noted that he found himself in a "complicated situation".

As for M Mitterrand, he had no "clear and consequent political programme" trying to reconcile the "often very contradictory interests of broad groups of voters".

Pravda repeated the French Communists' charge of the "switch to the right" of the French socialists and wondered whether its opportunism would not lead them to some compromise bargain with the "bourgeois parties of the centre".

M Georges Marchais, the Communist candidate, was quick to point out over the weekend that *Pravda* also emphasized that he had a "clear and straightforward" programme for the defence of the interests of the working people and for a "really independent foreign policy".

M Marchais added that he was opposed to all interference by a foreign political leader in French politics. "The policy of France is decided neither in London, nor in Washington, nor in Bonn, nor in Moscow but in Paris and nowhere else", he said.

Major Haddad warned that UN troops in Lebanon will fire if attacked again

From Robert Fisk
Tibnin, southern Lebanon
March 17

In the strongest statement of its iknd yet made by a commander of United Nations troops in Lebanon, Maojr-General William Callaghan today angrily denounced the "barbaric killing of two of his Nigerian soldiers by the Israeli-bacekd militia of Major Saad Haddad.

The general issued a warning that the United Nations force here would "protect itself with the defensive weapons at its disposal" if it was attaced again. The United Nations in Lebanon, he said, would not be "intimidated by wanton and brutal acts". He added: "It is never open to me to negotiate under threat of fire and it it not my intention ever to do so."

Previously, under General Callaghan's precedessor. Maor-General Emmanuel Erskine of Ghana, United Nations troops hardkjklv ever returned fire even when attacked by Major Haddad's tanks and artillery. General Callaghan's statement today was intended as a firm and serious warning that his soldiers would no longer tolerate being shot at with impunity.

As a young Irish officer said later in his battalion headquarters at Tibnin: "It's a great feeling to know that morale is going up. It's great to now that when some bugger starts shooting at us, we can shoot bac kat him."

The general's words came less than 24 hours after the Haddad militia in southern Lebanon had fired shells into the Nigerian battalion area of the United Nations-controlled territory north of the Israeli frontier. A Nigerian officer and a corporal were killed and at least 16 were wounded. Two Lebanese soldiers were also badly hurt.

Immediately after this bombardment, Major Haddad's battalion observation posts around the village of Pater and it transpired today that they used phosphorus shells in their attack.

This morning, General Callaghan appeared in Tibnin—only a few miles from both Yater and Kantara, where the Nigerians died—for a St Patrick's Day medal parade for Irish troops. But the. : was little joyful in what he had to say.

From a smal podium surmounted by the national flags of the United Nations contingents serving in Lebanon, he read out—slowly and emphasizing every word—a message which he had just received from General Eitan, chief of staff of the Isdraeli forces.

"It is with deep sorrow and shock," the message said, "that I learnt about the incident that occurred in Kantara, where Unifil soldiers were killed and injured. Personally, I will do al posible to avoid recurrence of such incidents which mostly occur due to misunderstandings or unnecesary provocations."

General Callaghan, however, was clearly unhappy about the contents of this mesage. He had decided to accept it, he said, "after much consideration" and while he thanked General Eitan for his intervention yesterday, he added: "There was no provocation and no misunderstanding on the part of Unifil."

The real reason for Major Haddad's attack yesterday was almost certainly the increased deployment of Lebanese regular troops in the United Nations operational zone. Major Haddad's radio station, The Voice of Hope, reported American denunciations of the bombardment in its news broadcasts this morning but spent several minutes outlining the major's reasons for objecting to the presence of a ebanese force. They had been sent to southern Lebanon, he said, at the demand of Syria after the recent meeting between the Syrian and Lebanese presidents.

However, General Callaghan appears to be in no mood to treat with these arguments. This afternoon, two Lebanese Army convoys could be seen heading south from Sidon towards the United Nations area. It would not be an exaggeration to say that there could be some very dramatic moments for Unifil—and for Major Haddad's militia—in the coming days.

Mr Peres objects to U S planes for Saudis

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, March 17

Strong objections to the United States decision to sell four radar early-warning aircraft (Awaks) to Saudi Arabia were voiced today by Mr Shimon Peres, the leader of the opposition Israeli Labour Party.

"This is a very serious problem for Israel", he told a press conference. The aircraft cancelled our "all radar installations, giving the Saudis a degree of control over the skies that makes life for all countries extremely difficult—an additional item in an already very tense arms race".

If the United States wanted to sell aircraft to Saudi Arabia that country should first declare itself for peace and support the Camp David agreements. Policies should come before technology, "not the other way round".

He believed that a Middle-East settlement must have political agreement as the first step.

Mr Peres, who expects to head a new Israeli Government after the June election, was no less emphatic about his country's refusal to emulate Egypt in signing and ratifying the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

"Non-proliferation makes sense when you have peace" he said. "But if there is no peace how is it going to help you?

"What are you going to do with a country like Iraq, in a state of war with Israel and trying to build nuclear reactors? What is the use of being in the non-proliferation treaty with Libya and other countries?

"We are not ready to make life easy for everybody around us and be victims of everybody. If people want us to sign the non-proliferation treaty, we want the very same people to do something about bringing peace to the area."

In brief

Israeli jailed for robbing Arab

Tel Aviv, March 17.—An Israeli paratrooper was sent to jail for 10 weeks by a military court yesterday after he had admitted stealing a purse from an Arab, in a village north of Jerusalem.

The soldier was also given a suspended sentence of three months for the offence, committed during a house search in Silwad last December. Another soldier who participated in the search received a suspended sentence for beating a villager.

First of Finnish jet batch in fatal crash

Helsinki, March 17.—The first Hawker Siddeley Hawk jet trainer delivered to the Finnish Air Force has crashed in Tampere, southern Finland. One of the two pilots was killed.

Finland has bought 50 Hawks and the first one, destroyed in the accident, was delieved last December. Four of the jets are to be built in Britain, while the rest will be assembled in Finland.

Soviet envoy expelled

Monrovia, March 17.—The Liberian Government has declared Mr Ivan Muzykin, a Soviet diplomat, *persona non grata*. He was given 48 hours to leave the country.

Drug sales stopped

Zagreb, March 17. — The Zagreb Immunology Institute in Yugoslavia, which manufactures interferon, the cancer drug, has stopped sales of the product to private individuals because of black market dealing.

Andes tension eases

Lima, March 17.—Peru and Ecuador have begun to withdraw their border troops reinforcements, paving the way for a full resumption of ties between the South American countries, the Peruvian Government said.

106 jobless held after attack on union officers

From Our Correspondent
Rome, March 17

Naples police today transferred to prison 106 unemployed people who had been arrested after they occupied and ransacked the local headquarters of the communist-led CGIL trade union confederation during the night. They were accused of seditious activities and other charges after clashes in which 11 police and six demonstrators were injured.

In the offices of CGIL, the biggest of the Italian trade union confederations, furniture was destroyed and typewriters were looted, while cars in the street below were broken into and their radios removed.

The Naples unemployed, whose number is estimated to have grown to more than 150,000 since the earthquake in November, have formed their own organizations which have negotiated outside the trade union framework with Signor Franco Foschi, the Minister of Labour, and won promises of paid training courses for 10,000.

For over a month they have been demonstrating in the town centre almost daily.

Johnny Owen inquest

Los Angeles, March 17.—The inquest into the death of Johnny Owen, the Welsh boxer, has been postponed for the third time. A coroner's spokesmen said that the latest delay was made "to compile more information".

EEC agrees to provide food aid to China

From Our Own Correspondent

EEC Foreign ministers agreed in principle in Brussels today to provide food aid to China, which has requested it for the first time since the communists came to power more than 30 years ago.

The Chinese have made their needs known very discreetly. The Peking Government has prided itself on its ability to feed its huge population, unlike India.

China's problems have been caused by a disastrous mixture of flooding and drought in the two provinces of Hubei and Hebei, which has destroyed agricultural crops.

Estimates of the disaster varied here. British sources suggested that as many as 190 million people might be directly or indirectly affected 130 million of them acutely.

Irish officials, however, put the total at 43 million, about 45 per cent of the population of the two provinces which they estimated to have lost 50 to 80 per cent of their agricultural output.

According to the Irish, the Chinese are seeking sufficient food aid to enable them to increase food intake a head to 650 grammes a day from the present level of 400 grammes.

The foreign ministers agreeu, subject to further discussion of the detail by officials, to make available to the Chinese about 2,000 tonnes of milk powder and 8,000 tonnes of rapeseed, worth just under £3m.

French find tenth farm case of foot and mouth

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 17

The sanitary cordon around the village of Henansal in Brittany was extended today after the confirmation of a case of foot and mouth disease in a pig on a farm outside the area enclosed by the original cordon when the outbreak started a fortnight ago.

The cordon now extends round an area 15 miles long by three miles wide. Animals in all surrounding areas have been vaccinated.

Although the latest case, the tenth so far reported, was outside the area encolsed by the original cordon, it was on a farm where vaccination had been carried out.

Jailed Swiss spy conducts a phone-in

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 17

Mr Jean-Louis Jeanmaire a former brigadier in the Swiss army now serving an 18-year sentence on charges of passing secrets to a succession of Soviet military attachés in Bern, has astounded the public by speaking live from prison on the main programme of Radio Suisse Romande.

His trial, in June 1966, was the high point of the most sensational espionage affair in Switzerland. Before retiring he had commanded civil defence troops.

A telephone call from Mr Jeanmaire to the presenter of a radio programme dealing with his case went straight on to the air in phone-in fashion. Mr Jeanmaire, now aged 71, asked that extracts from recorded interviews recently given to a journalist should not be broadcast.

"What was said in those interviews was intended for a book to be published after I had seen it, not for newspaper or radio use", he said. "One speaks differently for a book." The request was granted and the programme was shortened.

How he was able to telephone the radio station direct from prison has yet to be explained.

In articles being published by a Lausanne newspaper, Mr Jeanmaire is quoted as saying that the charges against him were trumped up because of personal rivalries and in order to impress upon the country that "the Russian enemy is at the gare."

He is also quoted as saying that he had signed a confession after lengthy interrogation when he was "so morally and physically worn down" as to be incapable of reading it. Interviews carried earlier in a Zurich newspaper are described as having been obtained when Mr Jeanmaire was "on Christmas parole".

Elections are called off in Nkomo stronghold for fear of more unrest

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 17

Plans to hold municipal elections in Bulawayo, the Matabeleland stronghold of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front party, have been postponed for a second time.

Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the Minister of Local Government and Housing, told a press conference that the elections, scheduled for March 28 and 29, had been "postponed indefinitely because of the security situation". However, municipal elections will go ahead in Salisbury as planned at the end of this month.

Referring to the recent factional unrest in Bulawayo between Zipra and Zanla guerrillas, Dr Zvobgo said that many Zipra weapons were still hidden in and around the city. He had been advised by the Minister of Defence that he would be taking a grave risk if he allowed elections in Bulawayo to be held.

Municipal elections were postponed in Bulawayo and Salisbury at the end of last year after outbreaks of violence in Entumbane and Chitungwiza townships, to which Zipra and Zanla guerrillas had been transferred from outlying assembly points. Municipal and district council elections have already been held in the rest of the country.

News of the postponement of the poll in Bulawayo was badly received by members of the Patriotic Front party. Mr Vote Moyo, the party's national organizing secretary, said the move was designed to allow the majority Zanu (PF) party, headed by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, more time to become organized. "Mr Zvobgo knows very well his party would not have won a single seat if the poll was held now", he said.

Europeans killed: Two more Europeans have been murdered in the farming area to the east of Fort Victoria, bringing to four the number who have been killed there during the past week.

The police today named the dead as Mrs Helena van As, who was 71, and her grandson, Mr Phillip van As, aged 20. They were shot dead while watching television in their home last night.

The farm's owner, Mr Peter van As, was away in Salisbury at the time of the attack.

The van As's farm adjoins the one where Mr and Mrs Roux were shot dead by two men last week. Police sources said they believed the two killings were connected.

A big search was under way today for the gunmen with police using helicopters and tracker dogs.

The killings come at a time when white farmers are becoming increasingly concerned about the decline in law and order in the countryside, particularly in areas where former armed guerrillas are present. The "Foxtrot" assembly point, where several thousand Zanla guerrillas are still stationed, is in the vicinity of the attacked farms.

EEC-backed scheme encourages tribal peoples to turn to farming

Drought brings destitution to Kenya nomads

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 17

At least a quarter of the 170,000 people in the Turkana district in north-west Kenya, are destitute, having lost their herds of cattle, goats and camels to drought, disease, or raids by neighbouring tribes.

They are surviving on relief food, mainly maze, being distributed at scores of locations throughout this parched, semi-desert area as part of an ambitious plan, supported by more than £450,000 in grants and food supplies from the EEC.

Stores to hold the imported maize, and simple wooden houses for the British, American, Dutch, Norwegian and other volunteers who will help to administer the scheme, are taking shape in several centres.

Devised in consultation with the Kenya Government, missionaries and aid organizations, the EEC-backed scheme aims to rehabilitate the Turkana people by allowing them to be self-reliant.

The Turkana are semi-nomadic and normally live entirely on their cattle and goat herds. They are, however, being encouraged to grow food crops in areas where the soil is suitable, and where water is available from seasonal rivers.

This is being achieved by making famine relief food (half a kilogram of maize per adult per day) available in return for work on the new agricultural areas. Thorn scrub is being cleared under supervision and the ground is being prepared for planting of sorghum.

The EEC also plans to finance the purchase of goats from adjoining areas which will be supplied to each family group. M Jean-Paul Jesse, the EEC delegate in Kenya, who has toured areas where the Turkana project is getting started, says he accepts that many people will want to abandon the new farms once livestock are again available.

"But we hope that at least a proportion of them will retain small farms to supplement their diet and provide an assurance against the loss of their livestock in the future. To help to ensure this, adult education, health education and farming instructors are being provided", he said.

Much depends on the weather—most parts of Turkana have had no substantial rain since 1979. The traditional rainy season is approaching and if enough rain fails to provide a good initial crop for the new farming schemes, the rehabilitation scheme should succeed.

The impression gained from a 1,000-mile tour of Turkana is that the famine is under control, although there is only a narrow dividing line between starvation and survival. Unlike neighbouring Karamoja (Uganda's famine-hit area, which borders Turkana to the west), there is a well-organized relief system operating here.

Rome's first woman traffic police officer, Simonetta Fioriti, aged 26, takes control of traffic in the Piazza Venezia yesterday.

Angry Polish farmers challenge Warsaw

Warsaw, March 17.—The Government reached agreement tonight with free trade union leaders who forced the removal of three senior officials in Radom, but it faced a strike by militant farmers and threatened industrial action by timber workers.

Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the Deputy Prime Minister, agreed *to send a commission to* study the grievances of independent unionists in Radom who responded by dropping plans for further threats of strikes.

The Government faced a new confrontation today over the occupation by about 140 farmers of the headquarters of the pro-communist Peasant Party in the northern city of Bydgoszcz.

Mr Jan Kulaj, the leader of the self-proclaimed Rural Solidarity union, said the sit-in in Bydgoszcz was *a national* protest and a continuation of a similar strike in Rzeszow to force the authorities to recognize their union.

The authorities have consistently refused to recognize independent farmers' unions.

Talks were under way in Bydgoszcz to resolve the dispute, but there was no confirmation in Warsaw of a suggestion by the strikers that Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the Solidarity movement, planned to intervene yet.

The Radom union leaders called off a threatened strike yesterday after an appeal for restraint by Mr Walesa, and when it became clear that all three officials, the governor, party leader and police chief, had met their demands and resigned.

The union blamed the three officials for their role in the suppression of a workers' revolt nearly five years ago,

A delegation of six union negotiators from Radom spent all today in talks with Mr Rakowski about other grievances stemming from the events, including demands for government funds for housing and social projects, and the investigation of ore officials allegedly responsible for suppression of the riots.—Reuter and AP.

Czech parallel: Mr Bohuslav Chnoupek, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, said today *there were* "*historical* parallels" between the development of the crisis in Poland and the 1968 upheaval in his homeland (AP reports from Moscow).

He was *speaking* after three hours of talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The discussions were believed to have ranged over international and bilateral issues.

Soviet-led Warsaw Pact troops occupied Czechoslovakia *on August 21, 1968 to suppress* the communist regime of Mr Alexander Dubcek that was judged too liberal by the Kremlin.

"I call your attention to the anti-socialist and counter-revolutionary phenomena, and, on the basis of our own experience in 1968-69, I call your attention to the fact that if one looks for historical parallels, one can find very much in common in the development of Czechoslovakia and Poland", he said.

Dealing with his attitude to events in Poland, he said his country had close trade relations with Warsaw, that Polish troops had helped to liberate Czechoslovakia in the Second World War and that they shared a long frontier. For those reasons "we are very much interested in everything that's going on in Poland".

Czechoslovakia *has been* one of the harshest critics of labour unrest in Poland. The state-controlled press was among the first to suggest that "counter-revolutionary" elements were operating in Solidarity.

Law Report March 17 1981

Disconnected life support system no defence to murder

Regina v Malcherek
Regina v Steel

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Smith

When medical treatment by ventilator and life support apparatus is given to a person gravely injured by an assailant, and the doctors decide that because of brain death treatment is otiose and they discontinue it, the discontinuance does not prevent the original assailant from being responsible for the death.

The Court of Appeal so held when giving judgment in two cases raising the question whether judges in murder trials were correct to withdraw the question of causation from the juries.

Richard Tadeusz Malcherek, *aged 33, appealed against conviction* at Winchester Crown Court (Mr Justice Willis) of the murder of his wife by stabbing.

Anthony Steel, aged 24, sought leave to appeal against conviction at Leeds Crown Court (Mr Justice Boreham) of the murder of Carol Anne Wilkinson, by striking her on the head with a 50lb stone. She suffered skull fractures and severe brain damage.

Mr T. G. Field-Fisher, QC, and Mr Anthony Bailey for Malcherek; Mr Wilfred Steer, QC, and Mr J. S. H. Stewart for Steel; Mr J. J. Smyth, QC, and Mr Donald Gordon for the Crown in Malcherek's case; Mr Smyth and Mr J. Michael Meredith for the Crown *in* Steel's case.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that *Miss Wilkinson* was taken to hospital and put on to a life support machine in the shape of a ventilator on October 10, 1977. On October 12 the medical team in whose charge she was, after a number of tests, concluded that her brain had ceased to function and that, accordingly, the ventilator was operating on a lifeless body. The life support *machine* was disconnected and all bodily functions ceased shortly afterwards.

So far as Steel's application related to causation the facts were that, *on admission to the casualty* department, Miss Wilkinson was seen by a doctor who found her to be deeply *unconscious* with no motor activity, her eyes open and the *pupils fixed. She was breathing* only with the aid of a ventilator. An hour later she was admitted to the *intensive* care unit. During that day she remained deeply unconscious and quite unresponsive. At 10 pm that night the consultant neurosurgeon found her to be in a deep coma, unresponding to any stimulus. He carried out a test for electrical activity *in* the brain, which proved negative. The total absence of motor activity since admission and early fixation of the pupils suggested to him a devastating impact *injury to the brain.* The cerebral function monitor showed no activity; *her* eyes were too occluded to allow caloric testing. The neuro-surgeon suggested that her *temperature should be raised and.* If by the morning her cerebral *function* monitor continued to be zero, they should declare her brain to be dead.

In fact, in the morning a cerebral blood flow test was carried out which indicated that no blood was circulating in the brain. Several electro-encephalogram tests were made during the day, all with negative results. On October 12 another electro-encephalogram test was made in the morning, another in the evening, both were negative. After that there was a consultation between the doctors responsible for her care. It was agreed among them that the continued use of the ventilator was without *purpose. It was withdrawn at 6.15 pm* and at 6.40 pm she was declared to be dead. In a post mortem examination carried out only 50 minutes later it was found that her brain was already decomposing.

Much of the cross-examination of the medical men had been taken up with suggestions that they had failed to conform to certain criteria laid down by the medical colleges on the subject of "brain death".

Malcherek's appeal related to his having stabbed his wife nine times with a kitchen knife. One stab resulted in a deep, penetrating wound to the abdomen. She was taken to hospital in the early hours of March 27, 1979. Preliminary treatment attempted to improve her low blood pressure. Then the surgical registrar performed a laparotomy and removed 1½ litres of blood from the abdomen.

For several days it seemed as though Mrs Malcherek was making a satisfactory recovery. She was expected to survive. However, *in* the afternoon of April 1 she collapsed, the diagnosis being a massive pulmonary embolism. She was resuscitated and transferred to another hospital, where she arrived shortly before midnight. About two hours later her condition suddenly deteriorated and her heart stopped.

At once she was taken to the operating theatre, where she was given cardiac massage. The surgeon extracted a large clot of blood from the pulmonary artery and the heart started again spontaneously, but circulation had been lacking or inadequate for as long as half an hour and there was grave possibility of of anoxic brain damage. She was returned to the ward and connected as a matter of routine to a ventilator. She remained on the life support machine throughout that day, receiving intensive care. In the evening she was unresponsive to any stimulus save that her pupils reacted to light.

On April 3 the doctor decided that, in accordance with the usual practice, the ventilator should be dispensed with if it could possibly be done. At first she seemed able to breathe adequately, but towards midday suffered a marked deterioration.

On April 5 it was obvious that the brain was irretrievably damaged. A doctor carried out five of the six so-called medical colleges' confirmatory tests. The one omitted was the "gag reflex" test. They all had negative results. Her *relations* were spoken to, and the decision was made to disconnect the ventilator. A supply of oxygen was fed to her lungs in case she should make a spontaneous effort to breathe, but she did not and was certified dead at 5.10 pm.

His Lordship said that the present was not the occasion for any decision as to what constituted death. Modern techniques had undoubtedly resulted in the blurring of many of the traditional and conventional concepts of death. A person's heart could now be removed altogether without death supervening; machines kept the blood circulating through the vessels of the body until a new heart could be implanted in the patient.

There was, it seemed, a body of opinion in the medical profession that there was only one true test of death, namely, the irreversible death of the brain stem, which controlled the basic functions of the body such as breathing. When that occurred it was said that the body had died even though by mechanical means the lungs were being caused to operate and some circulation of blood was taking place.

Their Lordships had been asked to admit evidence that in each of the cases the medical men concerned had not complied with all the suggested criteria for establishing such brain death. Indeed, further evidence suggested that the criteria or tests were not in themselves stringent enough.

However, in each case there was no doubt that whatever test was applied the victim had died. Applying the traditional test, all bodily functions—breathing, heart beat, brain *function—had come to an* end at the latest, soon after the ventilator had been disconnected.

The question posed for argument to the court was whether the judge in each case was right to withdraw from the jury the question of causation. Was he right to rule that there was no evidence on which the jury could conclude that the assailant did not cause the death of the victim?

The submissions of Mr Field-Fisher and Mr Steer were that the doctors, by switching off the ventilator and life support machine, were the cause of death, or, more accurately, there was evidence which the jury should have been allowed to consider that the doctors and not the assailant in each case might have been the cause of death.

In each case it was clear that the initial assault was the cause of the grave head injury in the one case and the massive abdominal haemorrhage in the other. In each case the initial assault was the reason for the medical treatment being necessary. In each case the medical treatment given was normal and conventional. At some stage the doctors had to decide when treatment had become otiose. That decision was reached in each case.

It was no part of the court's task to inquire whether the criteria of the royal medical colleges' confirmatory tests were a satisfactory code of practice, nor whether the doctors in either case were justified in omitting one or more of the so-called confirmatory tests. The doctors were not on trial, the applicant and appellant were.

In *R v Smith* ([1959] 2 QB 35, 42-3) Lord Parker said: "It seems to the court that if at the time of death the original wound is still an operating cause and a substantial cause, then the death can properly be said to be the result of the wound, albeit that some other cause of death is also operating ... only if the second cause is so overwhelming as to make the original wound merely part of the history can it be said that the death does not flow from the wound".

If a choice had to be made between *Smith* and the previous case of *R v Jordan* ((1956) 40 Cr App R 152), which their Lordships did not believe since *Jordan* was a very special case, then *Smith* was to be preferred.

In the present cases there was no evidence that, at the time of conventional death, after the *life* support machinery had ben disconnected, the original wound or injury was other than a continuing operating and substantial cause of the death of the victim—although it could be added that it did not need to be substantial to render the assailant guilty.

There might be occasions, although they would be rare, when the original injury ceased to be an operating cause at all. In the ordinary case, if the treatment was given bona fide by a competent and careful medical practitioner, then evidence would not be admissible to show that the treatment would not have been administered in the same way by another medical officer. In other words, the fact that the victim had died despite or because of the medical treatment for the initial injury—given by careful and skilled medical practitioners—would not exonerate the original assailant from responsibility for the death.

So far as the grounds of appeal in each case related to the direction given on causation, that ground failed.

The evidence which it was sought to adduce, if received, could under no circumstances afford any ground for allowing the appeal. The reason was that nothing which any of the medical men could say would alter the fact that, in each case, the assailant's action continued to be an operating cause of the death. Nothing they could say would provide any grounds for a jury concluding that the assailant in either case might not have caused the death. The farthest to which their proposed evidence went was to suggest that the criteria or confirmatory tests were not sufficiently stringent and that in the present cases, they were in certain matters *inadequately fulfilled or carried out.* It was no part of the court's function in the present circumstances to pronounce on those matters, nor was it a function of either jury.

Where a medical practitioner adopting methods which were generally accepted came bona *fide* and conscientiously to the conclusion that the patient was, for practical purposes, dead, and that such vital functions as existed, e.g. circulation, being maintained solely by mechanical means, that did not prevent the person who had inflicted the initial injury from being responsible for the victim's death even if the medical practitioner coming to his conclusion discontinued the treatment. Discontinuance of the treatment in those circumstances did not, as *it was sometimes put, break* the chain of causation between the initial injury and the death.

It was perhaps somewhat bizarre to suggest—as counsel had impliedly done—that where a doctor tried his conscientious best to save the life of a patient brought to hospital in extremis, skilfully using sophisticated methods, drugs and machinery to do so, but failed in his attempt and therefore discontinued treatment, he could be said to have caused the death of the patient.

It was neither necessary nor desirable nor expedient to receive the purported evidence of the doctors whose statements had been placed before their Lordships and there was no ground in either case for saying that the judge was wrong in withdrawing the issue of causation from the jury.

Malcherek's appeal was dismissed, as was Steel's application in so far as it related to the issue of causation. Their Lordships went on to hear Steel's application on other matters and refused it.

Solicitors: Trevanion & Curtis, Parkstone; T. I. Clough & Co, Bradford; DPP.

OAU views sought on Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, March 17

Mr Siaka Stevens, the President of Sierra Leone and present chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), arrived in Salisbury today on the second leg of a tour of black Southern African states.

During his two-day stay in Zimbabwe, he was due to hold talks with Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and other ministers, before flying on to Zambia tomorrow.

President Stevens is on a mission to confer with OAU heads of state before the organization's next summit conference in Nairobi in July. In particular, he is sounding out the views of black "Front Line" states on the problems of Namibia and South Africa after the collapse of the United Nations conference on Namibia last January.

The OAU is concerned about the more aggressive attitude being adopted by South Africa towards its black neighbours following last January's raid against African National Congress houses near Maputo.

It is also anticipated that the western powers will use their veto when a resolution on economic sanctions against South Africa is brought before the United Nations

Mauritania breaks with Morocco

Algiers, March 17.—Mauritania broke diplomatic relations with Morocco today after yesterday's abortive coup by two dissident officers, the Mauritanian news agency, monitored here, said.

Mauritania has accused Morocco of complicity in the coup attempt in which two palace guards were killed.

The two countries at one time waged a joint war against the Polisario movement. But after an army coup toppled President Moktar Ould Daddah of Mauritania in 1978, the new military Government withdrew from its zone of the Western Sahara and made peace with the *Polisario movement.*

In a statement broadcast on Mauritanian radio, monitored in Dakar, it was stated that the rebels had attacked the presidential palace with the intention of killing the head of state, the Prime Minister and all the members of the National Military Council.

Once this had been achieved the attackers intended to send a message to Rabat for the Moroccan Air Force to intervene, the radio said.

Morocco said today that the Mauritanian charges contained numerous contradictions.—Reuter.

Sudanese leader blames Russia for coup attempt

Cairo, March 17.—The Sudanese Government of President Nimeiry last week survived an attempted coup, believed to be the fifteenth since he came to power in 1969, the Sudanese news agency Suna reported today.

In a dispatch monitored in Cairo, it said that the plot was disclosed last night by President Nimeiry who was convinced that Syria and the Soviet Union had been behind the attempt.

The plot was organized by the military and led by a retired general who was arrested together with five army officers. An inquiry was under way to identify the accomplices.

General Nimeiry, who was held prisoner for three days in July 1972 after a pro-Soviet coup before being restored to power with the help of President Sadat of Egypt, strongly attacked the Soviet Union, according to Suna.

He said Soviet "infiltration of Africa and the Gulf region" was a "cancer", and called on the United States to increase aid to less-developed countries to help them to face the Soviet threat.

He was prepared to offer facilities to United States forces in Sudan and invited Washington to build air bases in the country for joint use by Sudanese and American forces if Sudan was threatened.

President Nimeiry apparently considers that the Soviet infiltration of Africa has taken a *concrete form with the* Libyan intervention in Chad.

He is said to be concerned by "the ideological communist invasion" of Sudan and the possibility of attacks or sabotage operations.

This anxiety is believed to arise from the numerical strength of the Communist Party in Sudan, which has about one million members in a population of about 17 millions.

President Sadat has assumed the role of guarantor of the Nimeiry government and has publicly stated that Egypt would intervene to prevent *communist rule replacing* that of the present authorities.

Hardly a day has gone by since the Libyan intervention in Chad without the Egyptian authorities warning Libya and the Soviet Union not to "threaten Sudan's security".—Agence France-Presse

Man in the news

Honest poet who leads Nigeria

By Karan Thapar

Alhajji Shehu Usman Aleyu Shagari, President of Nigeria, who arrived in London yesterday for a two-day visit, was elected 18 months ago, if not by accident, definitely not by design.

He was never a leading candidate for the National Party's nomination for the presidency. But other men, obviously acceptable to the large factions in the party, would have polarized support and hampered the election fight. Mr Shagari's last-minute candidature was an attempt to bridge the gaps.

In a nation noted for its corruption, President Shagari is famous for his integrity and honesty. He is retiring and reflective, a deeply religious man and a highly-regarded Hausa poet.

Although Mr Shagari was a compromise candidate, he was also the most experienced, having served in several ministries and state corporations and survived four coups and counter-coups and numerous inquiries.

He has served on the boards of the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank as well as presiding over the first big "Nigerianization" of the civil service and the first significant revision of the immigration laws.

Mr Shagari has humble origins. He was born in May, 1925, in Shagari village, Sokoto state. His education started with a *theological emphasis* but eventually he took a degree in the teaching of science and in 1951 became headmaster of a small primary school at Argungu. Two years later he came to Britain on a British Council sponsorship.

In 1958, Mr Shagari is said to have abandoned his post as *promising* parliamentary secretary to return to teaching. In 1975, having left government again just before the coup of that year, he declined to serve in Murtala Mohammed's cabinet. He then became the chairman of Peugeot in Nigeria.

Just as Mr Shagari's politics are sincere and straightforward, his loyalties have been unswerving. He joined the now defunct Northern Peoples' Congress in 1949, at least two years before Ahmadu Bello and Balewa, the two power brokers of the first republic. After the *relaxation* on political activity in 1978, he became a founding member of the National Party.

Mr Shagari is a politician who always opts for the slow but sure approach. His strength is an ability to ride out political controversies by appearing to isolate and deflate them. Fiery rhetoric and dynamic bombast are alien to his placid style.

Gun arrest at rowdy Botha rally

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, March 17

A man with a pistol in his belt was arrested tonight as Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, began an election meeting in the key right-wing seat of Rustenburg, 100 miles from Johannesburg.

It was not entirely clear whether the gunman had been involved in an attempt to protect or kill Mr Botha in a fiery election meeting in a constituency where passions are running extremely high between the ultra-apartheid wing of the party and Mr Botha's more moderate attitudes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Leon Mallett, the official police spokesman, said that several people had been arrested in a scuffle before Mr Botha's meeting and that one of them was carrying a pistol. He said that the armed man was a police reservist.

In South Africa, there are many civilians who qualify as police reservists and are allowed to carry arms.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mellett said: "After the police reservist's identity was established he was released." He said that there had been a scuffle before Mr Botha entered the election meeting in the Rustenburg town hall. He said: "One of those who became involved was a police reservist and during the incident his pistol fell from his holster."

The man was grabbed by other policemen on the spot but freed as soon as they realized he was one of their own.

Mr Botha was addressing an important election meeting in Rustenburg where the far right faction of the National Party, the Herstige Nasionale Party, came within 800 votes of securing a seat in a by-election 18 months ago.

The Rustenburg constituency is the centre of South Africa's platinum industry and represents some of its most far-right votes for white supremacy.

Mr Botha entered the lion's den tonight to face the ultra conservative miners. He was greeted with boos as he walked to the platform in the town hall but countered the assault by saying that the lasttime he had encountered a similar *reception* was when he had opened an agricultural show.

Tear gas attack

Karachi, March 17.—Scores of patients left hospital beds in Karachi to escape tear gas fired by the police at medical students demonstrating outside, student leaders said today.

Zambia envoys reshuffle

Lusaka, March 17.—President Kenneth Kaunda has reshuffled several diplomats in Zambian *missions abroad,*

The former commander of the national defence force, Lieutenant-General Benjamin Mibenge, becomes High Commissioner in Canada, replacing *Lieutenant-General* Peter Zuze who goes to London as High Commissioner.

Mr Harry Nzunga, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is *appointed Ambassador to Italy,* replacing Mr Edward Lubinda who becomes Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The Ambassadors to Japan, Belgium, Egypt, Moscow, Angola and Lisbon are all involved in moves.—Reuter.

Dr Obote denies that army is out of control

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, March 17

President Obote of Uganda, emphasized the need for economic recovery and improved security *when he formally* opened Parliament in Kampala today for the first business meeting since the December election.

He called for a halt to killings and appealed for foreign investment. Dr Obote did not directly refer to the underground guerrilla groups, which say they are working to overthrow his Government, but he denied that the Uganda Army was out of control and had been killing and robbing civilians on a large scale.

Those responsible for recent unrest in Northern Uganda were "bandits", he said, adding that his Government, formed after the December election, would work for good relations with all Uganda's neighbours.

He welcomed a decision by Kenya to lend Uganda £15m to help clear a backlog of Uganda-bound goods "held up" at the Kenyan port of Mombasa. But he was critical of the international oil companies who, he said, had refused to extend credit to Uganda.

Dr Obote defended the victory of his *Uganda* People's Congress in the December poll and said those who alleged fraud in the elections were enemies of democracy. He pledged that the Government would accept the decisions of the High Court on about 50 petitions alleging election irregularities.

Prince Sihanouk returns to centre stage role

From David Watts
Singapore, March 17

Prince Norodom Sihanouk's political style has always been similar to the saxophone jazz *solos* with which he used to entertain visitors—improvised.

Some might call him pragmatic; but whatever the word, it is hard to discern any kind of a consistent theme throughout his political career beyond a continuous striving for the independence of what used to be called Cambodia.

From the unlikely address of Pyongyang, North Korea, where he is staying in a guest house provided by his "best friend", President Kim Il Sung, the prince is once again at stage centre of Kampuchean politics in circumstances some Kampucheans see as uncomfortably like those in 1975 when the Khmer Rouge came to power.

After what the prince has said was a lot of pressure from non-communist Kampucheans outside the country, he has just concluded the first round of negotiations with Mr Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader on a united front to oppose the Vietnamese presence in Kampuchea.

And it is the prince's interest in entering an arrangement with the Khmer Rouge that is causing discomfort.

For years Prince Sihanouk has said that he would never again have anything to do with the Khmer Rouge, who were responsible for the deaths of so many of his countrymen and for many members of his own family; but after changing his mind at least once in the past few weeks he agreed to enter into the negotiations.

Apparently recognizing the politico-military realities, with no doubt, some arm-twisting in the background, he went into the meetings with Mr Khieu with tough conditions and a plan not to hold a second round of talks before the next session of the United Nations in New York this autumn.

The prince's main condition for a united front under his leadership is that all parties in Kampuchea should agree to being disarmed immediately after a withdrawal of Vietnamese forces and that Kampuchea should then pass into United Nations trusteeship for an indefinite period with elections held under international supervision.

The prince, just like the other leading candidate as head of a united front, Mr Son Sann, of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), is under no illusions that the Khmer Rouge are willing to cede real power, long-term to any figurehead leader.

Both know that the idea of a united front is a short-term political palliative to retain the Kampuchean seat at the United Nations in the hands of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the Khmer Rouge, and that beyond that the life of any such united front would be precarious in the extreme with the near certainty that the Khmer Rouge *would resume* absolute power.

Ironically, the immediate effect of the announcement of the Prince's interest in leading a united front was profound disunity among Kampucheans. Mr Son Sann declined to attend the Pyongyang talks ostensibly because he could not afford the trip. He could, however, afford a trip to Paris to visit his supporters there.

Recent visitors to Kampuchea say that the prince's plans have further eroded what little support he still commanded in the country; although in the heavily monitored Kampuchea of today it is hard to elicit true feelings.

Perhaps more significantly, and certainly more tragically, there are reports from the Thai-Kampuchean border that Khmer Rouge military units, emboldened by the incipient alliance with the prince, have begun attacking villages and concentrations of Khmer refugees loyal to Mr Son.

The political reality is that unless the non-communist elements of a *united Khmer front* are given sufficient military muscle there is little chance of it getting off the ground.

Both Prince Sihanouk and Mr Son know that the only thing that come close to balancing Khmer Rouge military power is more military support. The Chinese refuse this until the united front is a fact.

PARLIAMENT, March 17, 1981

Stated dose of Tory medicine not yet exceeded: Budget never discussed by Cabinet

House of Commons

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, repeatedly said that budget statements were never discussed in Cabinet when she was questioned about the inquiry set up into the budget leak.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, (Ebbw Vale, Lab) had asked her what was the basis or the circumstances in which she has set up the inquiry into the alleged budget leakage?

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): I personally do not set up inquiries into matters within the province of the Treasury. It is set up in the normal way by the Treasury doing this through the normal Civil Service departments. (Labour interruptions

Mr Foot: I take it that this is a normal inquiry into the usual leakage.

Is it the case that the most serious leakage that occurred last week was that which suggested on Friday that she herself, or those closely associated with her, had said it would not be possible to have a pre-budget meeting of the Cabinet to discuss what was going into the budget because of the danger of leakage, and what was discussed in the morning might be out by tea time?

Can she tell us who these tea time traitors are, and give us a little more enlightenment about whether it did come from her office?

Mrs Thatcher: I can never remember all the time I have been in Cabinet, a budget which was itself discussed in Cabinet before the budget was prepared. Never.

Mr Foot: It is most extraordinary if the present Cabinet does not discuss the budget before hand. That certainly was not the practice in previous Cabinets. (Conservative interruptions) I can assure the House there have been discussions as indicated by Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C) in his speech yesterday.

Did the statement or that attributed to her which was released on Friday about the difficulty she would have in instituting in this Cabinet any discussion on these matters, come from her department, or did it just come from thin air?

Mrs Thatcher: Budget statements are never discussed in Cabinet. Never. Never. If Mr Foot says it did in his time, I wonder why we frequently got news items that either the day before the budget or on the morning of the budget the Cabinet was called together to be told precisely what was in it.

Mr David Steele, Leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles): Is it still the Prime Minister's view a week after the budget that we have to go on taking the medicine?

If so, will she remember the words on the side of every medicine bottle: "Caution: Do not exceed the stated dose".

Mrs Thatcher: The stated dose has not yet been exceeded.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): Since the Prime Minister came into office millions of people in this country have suffered as a result of her policies. In what way has she or her family suffered in that time? (Conservative protests.)

Mrs Thatcher: I do not think I answer for anything personal at this dispatch box.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Batersea, South, Lab): Will she consider the secrecy which surrounds the way in which governments traditionally approach their budget plans?

Is it possible in future for the options underlying the budget to be made public sometime before, so that the debate in the House and the country can be petter

Mrs Thatcher: No.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab): Would she consider the vote in the House last night on the increase in tax on petrol which was universally condemned by her own side? (Conservative laughter.)

Can I take it that between now and the committee stage—which I hope will be taken on the floor of the House—the Government will review their policy and cut out this increase in the tax.

Mrs Thatcher: No. As to the majority, I recall that the Labour Party nationalized British Eerospace and British Shipbuilders with a majority of one. We were 1,400 per cent better than that. (Conservative laughter and cheers.)

Mr Foot: Since she seems to be so happy about the result in the House on the petrol tax and since it seems to be causing such great disturbance in the country at large, would she agree to think it over and make the matter the subject of a free vote in the House of Commons

Mrs Thatcher: No.

Britain ready to help friends outside Nato area

The Government did not envisage the operation of the West's proposed rapid deployment force without the full support of and at the request of those states concerned, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, said.

This would be a common venture, he explained, for the defence of countries threatened by aggression and its deployment would have to be by agreement and after consultation.

Mr Nott (St Ives, C) had said in reply to requests for a statement on the force British defence activity outside the Nato area aims to help maintain stability primarily by the provision of training and assistance, participation in joint exercises and the supply of defence equipment.

In addition, British armed forces are already available to take military action in an emergency by rapid deployment overseas.

In concert with other allies, principally the United States, we are ready, where our assistance is sought to make a modest use of force to protect the interests of friendly local states and of the West in strategic regions.

In my discussions last week with the US Secretary of Defence about the US plans for a rapid deployment force, I made it clear that we will give full support to the United States.

We are also ready to undertake national tasks such as the reinforcement of British dependent territories or the protection of British citizens overseas.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): What sort of forces could be deployed in a rapid deployment force.

Mr Nott: On our side, we already have a spearhead battalion, as it is called—the First Battalion, Cheshire Regiment, and, in two weeks' time, the Royal Regiment of Wales, which is on 72 hours' notice.

We have enough VC10s and Hercules to lift them quickly to any necessary part of the world.

We have further units from the 8th Field Force stationed here; that includes among other units the fully-trained Parachute Battalion.

There are other forces which are earmarked by Nato as mobile forces, some at the moment deployed in the United Kingdom, and others on the Continent. There is a substantial force we can draw on.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): Relief in his welcome substantive reply would be undermined if anything were done to reduce the strength and effectiveness of the Royal Marine Commandos.

Mr Nott: I know his great concern about the proposal to merge one of the commandos with others. There is no present intention to reduce the numbers of the Royal Marine Commandos, indeed recruiting is still increasing their numbers. It is true we envisage one less commando, and so one less unit.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport, Lab): Has he considered the objections to these plans from certain Arab states in the area. Wisely and understandably, they do not wish to get involved in the cold-war strategy.

It would be better for the Government to forget its imperialist delusions and instead concentrate on getting Britain back to work. (Conservative protests.)

Mr Nott: I am not aware of the objections. If there are any, I am going to Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain next week. No doubt, I shall bear directly from them how they see we can act together in our common interests to preserve various parts of the world which might be under potential threat—both the countries themselves and the West as a whole.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet East, C): On his forthcoming visit he should undertake to carry out detailed consultations with friendly countries in that area before coming to final deicsions on our contribution to a rapid deployment force.

While any extension of the existing maritime force in the Gulf in a time of crisis could be useful, any attempt to build a big maritime base on foreign soil could be counter-productive and provocative.

Mr Nott: The security and stability of the Gulf is in the first place a matter for the states themselves. We do not envisage action in, for instance, the Gulf without the full support and request of those states concerned.

This would be a common venture for the defence of countries threatened by aggression. It would have to be by agreement and after consultation.

On a naval force, a Royal Navy contribution could be significant. On basing, the United States is having talks with a number of countries in that area. This would be bases for equipment, almost certainly not people. These are matters which we are reviewing with the countries concerned.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford East, Lab): Does he remember the long and successful struggle in this House to wind-up our military activity east of Suez? Is the Government proposing to return there?

Mr Nott: I remember Mr Allaun's struggle. Whether it was successful is a question of judgment. Certainly, we did withdraw from permanent bases east of Suez, but there is no intention to return to one there, the Gulf or anywhere else. That is not the purpose of the rapid deployment force and never was.

He added later: On the naval task force side, we envisage the possibility of HMS Hermes with Marine Commandos and support forces, might be available for RDF tasks.

Mr James Wellbeloved (Bexley, Erith and Crayford, Lab): His statement that he is prepared to reassign the Nato mobile force to the rapid deployment force strikes a fundamental blow at the coherence of the Nato alliance, since the first priority is to the central front of Nato.

Mr Nott: That is not what I said at all.

Mr Wellbeloved: It was.

Mr Nott: No. I said that we had a spearhead battalion on 72 hours' notice and the 8th Field Force in the United Kingdom. That is not dedicated to Saceur. I said that Nato had a mobile force which, if Nato so decided and Saceur so decided, might provide some forces. That is different to the way Mr Wellbeloved put it.

Mr Geoffrey Johnson Smith (East Grinstead, C): Could he possibly give us some idea on the thinking of the Government on this complex and necessary matter?

Mr Nott: There are a number of details to be settled but it depends to some extent on how the Americans further develop their own ideas on command and control structure and the exact position of their own forces before we can tie up the details of our own contribution.

Mr Brynor John, chief Opposition spokesman on defence (Pontypridd, Lab): In an interview in *Now!* magazine, it is reported that Mr Nott suggested that the boundaries of Nato would be extended. What he says about Saceur implies that there is a desire for extension. Would he deny that?

The flaw in the announcement was that the consultation was in Washington and not in the Gulf, where it should have been before the announcement. Would he ask the Prime Minister to think first and speak afterwards, rather than the reverse?

Mr Nott: There is a continuing dialogue with the Gulf states by the United States and this country. On the question of control arrangements, this would be a national force and not under Nato command.

What I said and will clarify once again is that there are some mobile forces which exist already and which, if Nato so desired, might provide a mobile force, but the United States are not envisaging the RDF should be drawn from troops on the central front, nor am I envisaging that any contribution we might make would come from the central front.

It would come from the spearhead battalion and, if more is needed, come from the 8th Field Force in the United Kingdom.

Belize and Guatemala will benefit from deal

House of Lords

The settlement of the dispute between Guatemala and the United Kingdom over the territory of Belize will bring benefits not only to Belize but to Guatemala, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a statement.

Lord Carrington said: Following the recent ministerial talks in London between her Majesty's Government and the Government of Guatemala, at which the Premier of Belize and two of his cabinet colleagues were present, heads of agreement were signed on March 11 on the basis of which a full settlement is to be negotiated between the United Kingdom and Guatemala.

This settlement will end the controversy that has existed between the two countries for well over 100 years over the territory of Belize.

The heads of agreement, which were published last night, represent a significant advance. They provide the framework for a solution to this long-standing problem which all concerned can regard as just and honourable.

Settlement of the controversy will bring great benefits to Belize, the safeguarding of whose interests has been our concern throughout the negotiations. Under the terms of the treaties which we shall now negotiate the Guatemalan territorial claim will be ended and Belize's future security will therefort be assured. Guatemala will recognize the independent state of Belize within its existing frontiers on the day of independence.

Guatemala will also benefit. It will be assured permanent and unimpeded access to the Caribbean; the use and enjoyment of the Ranguana and Sapodilla cays, the two southern-most groups of very small islands on the Belizean barrier reef; and rights in areas of the sea adjacent to the cays, as may be agreed.

Other provisions will be mutually beneficial: They include free port facilities for Guatemala in Belize and for Belize in Guatemala; completion of roads; facilities for oil pipelines; agreements on pollution control, navigation and fishing; joint exploration and exploitation of minerals in areas of the sea bed and continental shelf to be agreed; development projects and security cooperation.

The heads of agreement represent a commitment on all sides to negotiate in good faith the legal instruments which will provide for a full, honourable and permanent setlement. I pay tribute to the imagination and flexibility shown by the Belizean delegation as well as the Guatemalan Government in the talks which have enabled us to take this major step forward.

I am confident that with continuing good will and understanding a final settlement can be negotiated successfully over the coming months.

Matter of honour not to go on strike

Civil service pay and local authority pay was 50 per cent higher than two years ago which showed that the Government had tried to give public service workers a fair deal, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions.

Mr Denshore Dover (Chorley, C) asked: Will all the civil servants taking part in the current strike lose their pay for the days they are on strike.

Mrs Thatcher: People in the Civil Service are not paid for days when they are on strike.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C): Many of my constituents feel the Civil Service are neither underpaid nor lack job security. Would she redouble her efforts to review the manpower levels in every department in central government?

Mrs Thatcher: The pay of the Civil Service and those in local government is now in money terms about 50 per cent above what it was two years ago.

That shows that this Government has tried to give those who work in the public services a fair deal.

On manpower levels, we have announced we wish to get the Civil Service down to the lowest post-war level of 630,000. We shall pursue that objective vigorously.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering Romford, C): In view of the continuing disruption by civil servants, has the Prime Minister reached any conclusion about the statement made by the strike co-ordinator 10 days ago that it was intended to damage economic strategy and reduce the country's defence capability?

Does not that go beyond a pay strike and threaten democratic government itself and argue for the negotiation of a non-strike clause.

Mrs Thatcher: We would regard these matters very seriously indeed. Sometimes I have suggested that we have a no-strike agreement.

We really believe in key matters of this kind it should be a matter of honour that there should be no strike and a special negotiated agreement about it.

Navy to have nuclear and conventional submarines

The Ark Royal was being launched by the Queen Mother in June, Mr Keith Speed, Under Secretary for Defence for the Royal Navy, said.

Mr Speed (Ashford, C) told Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) that it was not the practice to publish future warship ordering plans. At present the department held a number of tenders from interested shipyards for a variety of vessels including a nuclear powered fleet submarine, Type 22 frigates, and mine sweeping trawlers.

Mr George Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on defence (Hamilton, Lab): The minister has told us he is not going to declare in advance the shipbuilding programme for the Navy, yet two national newspapers have well documented accounts of the future ordering programme.

Is there or is there not going to be a future fleet submarine ordering programme and is there going to be an SSN or a conventional submarine?

Mr Speed: There are going to be SSNs and conventional submarines. I am not responsible for what appears in a speculative form in the national press.

MP's complaint on EEC cash rejected by 50

A warning—similar to a Government health warning—should be prominently attached to every tranche of Brussels-British money returned to the United Kingdom, making clear that it was not European money but British taxpayers' money and that this country was getting back £1 for every £2 committed, Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) said.

But he was refused leave by 178 votes to 128—majority against 50—to introduce the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

Its purpose, he said, was to amend the European Communities Act 1972 to make the provision of objective and relevant information about the working of the Community automatic.

Questions such as "How much does the French farmer cost the British housewife?" should be answered. The British public should be on its guard. There would be attempts by the afficionados of Brussels to try to pretend that every penny coming from Brussels was European money. The people must not be misled. The money started in their pockets.

Mr Russell Johnson (Inverness, L), opposing the Bill, said that to propose the amendment of the 1972 Act was not practical and it was political nonsense to suggest it.

What Mr Marlow suggested was also dishonest. He knew the commitment of his party to the Community. Many Conservative MPs shared the dissatisfaction with certain of the workings of the Community, but to pretend that amending legislation would solve this was not true. Britain's problems were political, not national.

Private Bill

The Charterhouse Japhet Bill was read the third time in the Commons.

Minister pressing United States to buy British defence equipment

The relationship between the United States and Britain could not be warmer, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, said during a question on plans to further the prospect of United Kingdom equipment purchases by the United States. We are, he added, doing our utmost to persuade the United States to buy more defence equipment from us.

Mr Nott (St Ives, C) said: During my visit to the United States last week, I had useful discussions with the US Secretary of Defence and also with the Secretary of State. I met a number of senators and visited the headquarters at Norfolk, Virgina of the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic.

I found complete identity of view with Mr Weinberger on the need for the Alliance to remain firm in the face of the military threat we face and to meet the agreed Nato targets, securing from this expenditure the maximum operational capability.

We also agreed that we must not reduce our effort to secure a lower level of armament on both sides by continuing to try to secure agreement with Warsaw Pact countries on realistic and verifiable measures of arms control.

On defence equipment, Mr Weinberger and I agreed that reciprocal trade in equipment between our two countries enhances the economic strength of both the United States and the United Kingdom and that the UK had good equipment to offer. Mr Weinberger confirmed that there were proposals before the US Congress to fund both the AV8B and the JP233 programmes.

The briefing I received at Saclant provided me with a vivid description of the immense capability in the maritime sphere, as in others, that the US commits to the Alliance. In this, and in all ways, I was heartened by the resourcefulness and determination of the US in its leading role in Nato.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C): The US should purchase more equipment from the UK in view of the large sums that we spend on US equipment here and because of the high quality of many of our products. It is especially important that we should urge sales now as they would support a large number of jobs in Britain.

Mr John Nott: I entirely agree. We are doing our utmost to persuade the United States to buy more defence equipment from us. There is a considerable imbalance in their favour at present.

As well as the discussions with Mr Weinberger on the two items I have mentioned already, we talked about Searchwater, Stingray, Wavell, Giant Viper and Hawk.

I hope we will be successful in selling more British products to the US in future.

Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, C): Will the final decision on Trident wait for final decisions on offset?

Mr Nott: We are purchasing from the US ballistic missile system. I do not think that offset in the normal sense in which it is referred to, is really likely or relevant in that kind of circumstance.

Certainly, we will seek to maximize purchase by the US of our equipment, but in the case of Trident we are talking about something separate.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab): In talks about the need to expand further the expenditure on arms, did he bear in mind the speeches made at the United Nations special session on disarmament, not only by the British Prime Minister but by the Vice-President of the United States?

If so, how does he square the suggestion that we need more and more arms with the speeches made at the United Nations? Or are we just to take it that these speeches meant nothing at all?

Mr Nott: We follow what is said in the United Nations but not all those who made speeches happen to be on our side.

In my main answer I said we did discuss arms control in general. We agreed it was necessary to secure agreement with the Warsaw Pact countries on a lower level of armanents, balanced on both sides with verifiable measures to control it.

Mr Anthony Buck (Colchester, C): Can he tell us more about what will happen about Stingray? Can he confirm that our relationship with the United States is a close and special one and is likely to continue?

Mr Nott: Our relationship with the United States could not be warmer. I had an excellent series of talks and we were congratulated widely in the US for the substantial contribution we make to Nato. Stingray was mentioned in our talks and we will be following it up in future months.

Mr David Clark, an Opposition spokesman on defence (South Shields, Lab): On the JP233, will he confirm or deny that we have had notice of cancellation by the Americans? If this is correct, are we going to continue to develop it on our own and at extra cost?

Mr Nott: The position under the last administration was that Congress was unwilling to pass the funds which were provided by JP233. The present administration has put the matter back before Congress and we believe that it is likely to go through this time.

As for our position on the JP233 it is closely related to the progress this matter makes through the US Congress. It would be better if we both went in for this weapon than if we were required to do so alone.

Trident will bring jobs to industry

Seventy per cent of the £5,000m cost of the Trident programme would be spent with British industry and would increase jobs, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, said at question time.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said the number of deterrents on both sides was now so horrendous as to be able to blow mankind skyhigh.

The money to be spent on Trident, if put into the economy would regenerate industry and put many people back to work instead of being used uselessly on this so-called deterrent.

Mr Nott: I doubt if the shipyard workers in Barrow who will be receiving a large proportion of this in extra shipbuilding orders would share Mr Flannery's view.

Seventy per cent of this £5,000m will be spent with British industry and will increase jobs. It will go into the British economy.

As for the deterrent aspect, although the scale of the strategic weapons on both sides is horrendous, our own independent deterrent will make an extremely significant addition to the deterrents to any aggressor simply because it involves a second area of decision-making.

Mr Brynmor John, an Opposition spokesman on defence (Pontypridd, Lab): It makes no sense to spend £5,000m on a marginal addition to the so-called deterrent at the expense of interrupting other expenditure commitments.

Mr Nott: Every Labour Government since the war has considered it desirable, if not essential, that we should have an independent strategic nuclear deterrent.

If the Opposition has changed its mind one must ask why this is so when the threat is increasing year by year. (Conservative cheers.)

No decision yet taken on future of British troops

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Lab): It is an encouraging statement and I am glad to congratulate him on a substantial achievement. A settlement will help to maintain the peace and stability of this crucial area, especially in the face of Cuban adventurism. It is in the interests of central America as a whole that there should be this new evidence of stability in that area.

Nevertheless, Belize will no doubt wish to have guarantees for the future. One of them might be the continuance of the sophisticated British military presence in that country.

The Opposition would hope that any such presence might not be unduly prolonged. It involves 1,600 troops and a high level of technical support and costs some £26m.

Even more important in the medium and longer term is that the Government should be as generous as possible in the aid it will extend to the newly independent country of Belize.

I imagine that, since the security of Belize is now on the face of it secure, the troops will be shortly withdrawn, even if the Belize Government would in general like them to stay.

Lord Carrington: The territorial integrity of Belize is maintained and preserved by these heads of agreement. The security of Belize has been one of our primary concerns.

It will be discussed at the constitutional conference, but the nature of this agreement will perhaps make the need rather different from what it would have been had there not been an agreement.

I saw the Foreign Minister of Mexico here last week. The Mexicans have always been on record as accepting the rights of Belize to self-determination. They have always voted at the United Nations in favour of the independence of Belize. I know they will approve this agreement.

It is too early (he added later) to decide the future of the security forces in Belize.

After Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had repeated the statement in the Commons.

Mr Giles Radice, an Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, (Chester-le-Street, Lab) said: We welcome the heads of agreement in the hope it will end the long-running dispute between Britain and Guatemala over Belize and enable Belize at last to take its place as an independent nation.

Does the freedom of transit given to Guatemala on the two roads through Belize to the Guatemala border apply to military transport?

Mr Ridley: The freedom of transit is for commercial traffic only. There is no concession for military traffic along those roads.

Mr Edward Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil, Lab): It would be a good idea for the British troops to withdraw slowly so that we can be sure the settlement will stick.

Mr Ridley: We must discuss it with the Belizeans before we can make precise predictions about troop strength.

Whatever happens (he said) we will help the Belize defence force to impove its capability with training equipment of all sorts so that it can become a credible force in the defence of Belize.

Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab): Congratulations which are other than mild are premature considering we are dealing with a dictator whose country is armed to the teeth. The situation which has previously applied in Belize has been kept calm because of British troops.

In a situation like this, where there is going to be a great constitutional change, the people of Belize should be consulted.

Would it not be a good plan to have a referendum under impartial supervision to ascertain the views of the people?

Mr Ridley: It is only 13 months since the Goverment of Belize was reelected convincingly on a full mandate to proceed to independence come waht may.

I accept we have not got to the end of the road and things might go wrong. By far the best solution is to have a good relationship between Belize and Guatemala: it must be infinitely better than going to indpenendence without such an agreement.

PM rejects economic sanctions

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, declined a request to support mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa in support of independence for Namibia.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab) had asked in her discussions with President Shagari of Nigeria will she give an undertaking that when Namibia's case comes before the Security Council the British Government will support mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa.

Mrs Thatcher: I can give no such undertaking. The British Government will continue to work in the usual ways in which representatives work with our partners for a settlement of Namibia so that Namibia became properly independent with proper elections and a free ballot.

Defensive capability against chemicals

Britain must concentrate on enabling her troops to have a defensive capability against chemical weapons, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said during questions.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab) asked the Prime Minister whether her conversations with President Reagan included discussions on the stockpiling or deployment of binary nerve gas weapons on British soil.

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): No.

Mr Hooley: The United Kingdom has, hitherto, had a good record in promoting discussion on a convention to abolish all chemical weapons and prohibit their use.

Will this continue to be the policy of the Government in the light of the horrifying nature of these weapons?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, we are anxious to secure a comprehensive ban on chemical weapons. What is holding up such a ban is the attitude of the Soviet Union which has shown it is unwilling to countenance the verification arrangements we need.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bexleyheath, C): Many on this side welcome the Prime Minister's decision not to develop an offensive chemical warfare capability but to concentrate on producing better defensive mechanisms rather than chemical warfare.

Mrs Thatcher: It would be better still if we had a comprehensive ban on the possession of all chemical weapons, but so far there is no prospect of getting one.

It would be better if those who had been accused of possibly using chemical weapons in Afghanistan would submit to a United Nations investigation which, so far, they have refused to do.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, C): It is a matter of extreme concern that the Soviet Union should have made such heavy investments in recent years in an offensive chemical capability, both land based and air-launched. Every division of the Soviet army has an integral chemical battalion.

In those circumstances, unless some agreement can be obtained with the Soviet Union, is the Prime Minister not prepared to look again at the whole question of whether British troops should face such weapons without any means of safeguarding themselves against them?

Mrs Thatcher: It is a terrible fact that the Soviet Union has this considerable offensive chemical weapons capability. I believe that criticism should be concentrated on persuading them first to reduce that, then totally to disband it.

So long as they retain it, naturally other countries are concerned that they have nothing to deter the Soviet Union from using it.

In the first place we must concentrate on enabling our troops to have a defensive capability against that and have proper protection.

Need for medical school at St Mary's Hospital

Closure of the medical school of St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, would cripple the hospital and destroy the health care essential to that area Mr John Wheeler (City of Westminister, Paddington, C) said in an adjournment debate.

He said that the university centre would be meeting next Wednesday when it would probably make a decision about the future of the London medical schools.

It was being suggested that this school would have to be closed. That would have a disastrous effect on a hospital which was essential to an area which had considerable social deprivation.

Sir George Young, Under-Secretary for Health and Social Security (Ealing, Acton, C) said that the Flowers report had proposed the amalgamation of 34 existing medical institutions within the university.

The report had been hotly disputed and after a long period of consultation the medical faculty of the university proposed a revised package which changed some of the elements of the Flowers recommendations but supported many of its conclusions.

There could be no doubt that the hospital would continue to be a major centre for the provision for acute hospital services. The Government remained committed to the current plans for developing the hospital.

The current condition of the facilities there was inadequate and it had become increasingly difficult over recent years for it to meet the requirements of a district general hospital and a teaching hospital in its existing buildings.

Part of the buildings were over 100 years old, the layout was almost unworkable, space inadequate and communications poor. But despite the difficult conditions the standard of services provided had remained consistently high.

Whatever the decision of the University of London about the organization of the medical schools, the Government was fully committed to the redevelopment and his department had made clear to the university there would be substantial costs in any major replanning and this would be undesirable at such a late stage.

We would not (he said) allow NHS services to be adversely affected by any withdrawal of vital support services.

He would make certain that before any decision was arrived at, Mr Wheeler's speech was made available to those who had the decision to take so that they could be well aware of the high feeling and strong argument he had made in support of the medical school.

House adjourned, 8.31 pm.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on the economic problems of Northern Ireland. Motion on the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1976 (Continuance) Order.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Debate on the effects of expenditure cuts on the education service.

Golden handshake

House of Commons

Britain should retain the good will of Belize and help it in every way possible, Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab) said, opening a debate on aid for Belize on the motion for the second reading of the Consolidated Fund (No 2) Bill.

Belize was a country of endemic national disasters, mainly hurricanes, which were frequent and often of great intensity. It was a democratic, multi-racial country with a parliamentary system similar to Britain's. It was intensely pro-British, intensely preoccupied with maintaining British links and any aid accorded to it would be put to good effect.

This little country which had about 150,000 inhabitants with few natural resources except the willingness of its people to work was the type of country which, as it proceeded towards independence, Britain should not forget and should accord to it the thanks it deserved in vew of its long-standing connexion with Britain.

Mr Edward Lyons (Bradford, West, Lab) said since 63 per cent of all money for capital development projects came from Britain, the continued assistance of Britain was crucial.

Mr Neil Marten, Minister for Overseas Development (Banbury, C) said figures had not yet been decided, but aid would continue for a number of years. The Government was considering a suitable aid package or what was sometimes called a golden handshake, on independence. It would have to be discussed when a date for independence was fixed.

The full implications of the settlement with Guatemala would not be known until the details had been negotiated over the coming months.

Existing aid to Belize was given in the context of a healthy and expanding economy.

The Consolidated Fund Bill was read a second time and passed the remaining stages.

Rules on disclosure of company accounts

House of Lords

The fear that companies would have to face even more regulations from Government departments because of the Companies (No 2) Bill, which strengthens the inspection of accounts and sanctions against fraud, was expressed by **Lord Bruce of Donington** (Lab.)

He was moving an Opposition amendment to Clause 5 dealing with accounting exemptions, during the committee stage of the Bill. The proposed change would have obliged the Secretary of State, when he wished to modify the accounting exemption provisions, to have a draft instrument containing the modifications approved by resolution of both Houses.

He said people in busines already had to keep an eye on an unending stream of regulations from Government departments, but if they were to be inundated with regulations every time the EEC blinked an eye or a new Commissioner got an idea about what information was required, they would be filled with dismay.

The amendment was rejected by 72 votes to 57—Government majority, 15.

Lord Bruce of Donington, moving a further amendment, said he did not see why medium-size companies should be exempt from the responsibility to provide particulars from their turnover. The medium-size company defined in the Bill was of a substantial size and its results were quite significant.

The figures it achieved by way of performance were not only of interest to the company and its shareholders but to the public.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Advocate, said the amendment displayed a somewhat grudging attitude to the medium-sized company. Although there was a provision that this information need not be disclosed if it was seriously prejudicial to the interests of the company, in the case of a medium-size company it would be possible to infer a great deal from the accounts that could not be inferred in the case of a larger company where the figures would be subsumed in larger aggregates in their accounts.

The Government considered carefully where the correct balance lay and concluded that medium-sized companies should be relieved of the obligation to file this information with the registrar.

The amendment was negatived.

The Greater London Council (General Powers) (No 2) Bill and the British Railways Bill were both read a second time.

The House of Commons Members' Fund and Parliamentary Pensions Bill was read the third time and passed.

Nationality Bill may be amended

By Philip Webster
Parliamentary Staff

The Government is considering several changes to the nationality Bill after representations from British businessmen living and working overseas.

The Bill broadly provides for the transmission of citizenship to children born overseas of British citizens by descent to be for one generation only. Exceptions are made for Crown servants and clause 3 entitles a child born abroad to be registered as British if one parent is employed overseas by a United Kingdom-based company

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, announced to the standing committee on the Bill yesterday that the Government was considering extending the scope of the clause

The Bill's provision that the registration arrangements apply only if the parent has been employed wholly or mainly outside the United Kingdom in the preceding five years has also been criticized.

Mr Raison announced that the Government was considering a shorter period.

Referendum call on closed shop rejected

By Our Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday rejected a suggestion for a national referendum on the closed shop. The suggestion came from Mr Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Alldridge-Brownhills.

The Prime Minister, in a parliamentary written reply, said the Government was opposed to the principle of the closed shop and shared fully the public indignation which recent cases involving a number of local authority employees have caused.

Warning against militancy from Scargill opponent

From Ronald Kershaw
Wakefield

Needless militancy on the part of the National Union of Mineworkers would damage market prospects, cause uncertainty among existing coal users and creat a split within the union, Mr Trevor Bell, the moderate opponent to Mr Arthur Scargill in the fight for the presidency of the union said yesterday.

Mr Bell, who is general secretary of the 19,000-strong colliery officials and staff sections of the union, was replying to Mr Scargill, the Yorkshire area president, who had told delegates in his annual address to the area council: "The NUM can win virtually anything provided we are prepared to fight".

Mr Bell said the unity of the union was essential to pursue a larger share of the market for coal in Britain and Europe, to secure a future for Britain's miners.

The militants were in danger of fragmenting the union and driving away potential customers.

Consumer group seeks farm prices freeze

By Hugh Clayton

Consumer groups called yesterday for a freeze on farm prices of sugar, dairy produce and grain used for animal feed. They rejected the Government's policy of protecting farmers with a "tax on food".

The Consumers in the European Community Group (UK), an umbrella organization for 21 consumer bodies, said the average rise of 7.8 per cent recommended by the European Commission obscured the fact that increases on some grain and dairy produce would be higher.

"In Britain these foods form an important part of many people's diet, in particular those of families on low incomes", the group said before meeting Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The group told him it would be inconsistent to raise farm prices while trying to restrain inflation and the cost of the EEC budget and urged him to reduce the EEC "tax on food" by devaluing the green pound by more than the 5 per cent recommended.

Social Focus

Behind the violence, Ulster's shameful poverty

The real tragedy of Northern Ireland, usually obscured in a province where a stubborn refusal to see the wood for the trees is essential to the way of life, is that those opposed to the British connexion and those opposed to an Irish one are fighting the wrong battle.

They are encouraged in their foolishness by the general tendency in Britain to regard the increasingly distasteful Ulster link as a political and security problem with religious and ethnic overtones rather than as a social and economic problem with ethnic and religious distractions.

The bombings and killings, the political posturings and the to-ings and fro-ings continue to command the headlines, but behind them lies an awesome accumulation of social deprivation and outright poverty which can fairly be said to be a disgrace to western civilization. This has been said before, but hardly enough for it to have become a cliche.

The first Ulster person I heard saying it was Bernadette McAliskey, *nee* Devlin, in a Londonderry pub in 1968, just as the present prolonged bout of sectarian violence began. The shooting and the destruction continue in a desultory way, with Mrs McAliskey very nearly becoming a fatal casualty recently. But it is still the wrong fight, and poverty goes on gaining ground at an accelerating rate without, now, noticeable discrimination between Protestant and Catholic, whatever the former may still do to the latter.

The growing problem

Political causes which turn people into demolition experts and murderers and lead them to foul their own nest with spectacular insouciance cannot be taken lightly, still less ignored. Britain has done neither, but it remains true that few British politicians, directly responsible though they now are for the province, have grasped the growing immensity of the problem of poverty there and none has done much more than tinker with it, as the present condition of the place proves.

A senior civil servant in Belfast said: "I am not sure whether money alone is the answer to Northern Ireland's troubles. I do know that there can be no solution without it."

In the regional "league tables" of social and economic indicators for the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland usually lies at the bottom when it is best to stand at the top and vice versa. Its disadvantages are aggravated by distance, both physical and psychological.

Figures collated from various sources show the province has the highest proportion of dependent children and the highest birth rate in the kingdom. It also has the highest death rate, the lowest life expectancy and the highest infant mortality.

Northern Ireland consumes less alcohol than the rest of the UK but has the most alcoholics, a curious manifestation of local drinking patterns: more than 40 per cent are teetotal compared with about 9 per cent in Britain, but those who drink more than make up for the abstainers.

The province has by far the highest unemployment at 17.3 per cent (34.5 per cent in Strabane, more than 50 per cent in parts of Belfast) and the highest number of long-term unemployed (as well as the most self-employed). The appalling catalogue goes on and on: lowest personal and household income, greatest dependence on social security, highest domestic fuel expenditure, fewest household durables and housing amenities, highest proportion of housing unfit for human habitation, lowest reading standards (but the highest number in further education), lowest mean IQ and the highest congenital abnormality and mental handicap rates.

Such good fortune as can be found in depressed Britain, notably the plentiful if not exactly cheap "home-grown" coal, natural gas and oil, is denied to the northern Irish. Even with a £40m a year subsidy from the Government, electricity costs 22 per cent more than in Britain because nearly all of it comes from oil-fired power stations. Coal costs 12 per cent more, while the small but expensive town gas network in the province is being phased out.

On her recent visit to Belfast, Mrs Thatcher promised that electricity prices in the province will be held until Britain's catch up. This need not be seen as generous. "It's like one of those 'concessions' dictators make," said a voluntary social worker in Belfast. "You take everything away from somebody, then you give him a tiny bit back, call it a concession and expect him to be grateful". The Government is also studying the possibility of piping natural gas over the border from the Republic's field at Kinsale. Even so, about two thirds of northern Irish homes rely on relatively inefficient solid fuel.

An official of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, responsible for all public sector homes in the province to prevent discrimination by local authorities against Catholics, said the condition of the province's housing was 15 years behind Britain's. "Belfast has the worst housing in western Europe," he said.

The miserable quality of most of the city's housing in Protestant and Catholic areas alike tends to stupefy the inexperienced. The full flavour is acquired by walking round the city in the rain, not from the windows of a car, official or unofficial.

Condensation runs down the inside of windows on a mildish winter's day, attesting to damp and inadequate heating. Ingrained dirt actually shines from the wall of a hallway glimpsed through an open door, burnished by generations of shoulders overburdened by most things except paid work.

'The rats don't run ...'

Empty houses, boarded up, and overcrowded houses bursting with people who have moved for safety into one ghetto or another look out upon the rubble-strewn mud of cleared sites or are overlooked by a high wire security fence.

"The only fat you'll see round here is on the rats," said an eloquent housewife in west Belfast. "And they don't run, they walk." That is not strictly true. The people on the streets are sometimes overweight, pasty-faced or of blotchy complexion from poor diets. The crumbling cars and swirling rubbish match the lank hair, bad teeth, split shoes and shoddy clothing all around. Troubles or no, there is much apathy, probably more among Catholics than Protestants. Much of this might also be found in southern Italy, but there at least the sun shines — and there is only one religion. On the Protestant Shankill Road, the benefits of being British seem as remote as the Battle of the Boyne its murals celebrate.

Professor Peter Townsend, author of the trenchant work *Poverty in the United Kingdom*, once said of the Shankill Road district: "I had never before been anywhere in the United Kingdom where there were so many evident signs of poverty, and I remember two incidents in particular. In one street I saw two red-haired children selling coal by the pound from a handcart. Then a short distance away I noticed young girls looking for underwear in a second-hand clothes shop — this seemed to be a poignantly significant 'manifestation' of hardship, unique in the United Kingdom." That was in 1969. It seems no different now.

At the notorious Divis flats, slums from the day they opened, vandalism used to cost £500 a week. Intruders (presumably) urinated in the lifts, so vital to elderly people imprisoned in the tower block, and defecated in the hallways. Eventually the Housing Executive took defensive measures. Tempered steel lift doors were specially ordered from the local Harland and Wolff shipyard and two watchmen were engaged for a total of about £150 a week, an intelligent piece of job creation which produced a net saving of £350 a week.

"Unless we get a lot more money soon", said the Housing Executive official, "we won't even be able to stand still. There are 32,000 families on the waiting list, two thirds of them in acute need, and it grows by 2,000 a year."

The Executive administers 192,000 homes, about 37 per cent of the province's total stock. The official thought (he had no means of confirmation) that about 50,000 tenants of the executive were getting supplementary benefits and another 20,000 rent rebates. He thought that another 20,000 were entitled to help but did not draw it.

Small wonder that there is a formidable and still growing public debt in Ulster, now exceeding £31m, which represents in a province of a little more than 1.5m people a total of £20 for every man, woman and child, owed for unpaid rent, rates, electricity and gas. The statistics are difficult to disentangle because those who owe in one category are the most likely to owe in others, but it would appear that 100,000 householders share the total debt, an average of £300 each.

The public debt originated in rent and rate strikes 10 years ago and more, but administrators, social workers and other informed sources agree that the bulk of it now is evidence of inability to pay on grounds of acute poverty. The Housing Executive will increase all rents by an average 38 per cent in May on Government orders. The Executive official said: "This is a bloody silly doctrinaire approach. We could also employ many more people and have our pick, too, but we're not allowed to do that either, for the same doctrinaire reasons."

Eileen Evason, lecturer in social administration at the New University of Ulster at Coleraine and a leading figure in the "Poverty Lobby" which gathers information on need and tries to draw attention to it, has produced a number of vivid reports with catchy titles, like "Ends that don't meet" and "Just me and the kids" (on one-parent families, of which Ulster has far more than its fair share).

Ms Evason thinks Northern Ireland is at the end of its tether. "We are so far down the line that we can't take it any further. The social situation is explosive because of all the poverty here. People could get killed because of this. Every cut in spending has a *disproportionate* effect on us. Deliberate discrimination on religious grounds is fading: everybody's going down the same drain now." Last week's Budget will on this basis add several more turns of the screw.



Slums in the Lower Falls area of Belfast

Picture by Laurie Sparham/Network

Higher cost of living

It is clear that Britain's overstrained social security system cannot cope with Northern Ireland's problems, the most obvious of the several reasons being that payments are too small.

But there are other factors. There used to be positive discrimination in Ulster in that fuel subsidies took account of the higher prices charged. This practice has been abandoned. The system never did take any real account of the higher cost of living and all the other disadvantages relative to Britain to be found in Ulster.

The system also faces the wrong way. Instead of being active in looking for ways it can help, it is passive and waits for people to find out what benefits they might be entitled to and to claim them. The forms are usually dreadfully "official" and impenetrable to all but the well-educated and practised claimant, a contradiction in terms. The fear of "scrounging" has taken the heart out of the system and overrides crying need. Ulster is well represented in the recent estimate for the United Kingdom that £500m a year goes unclaimed, not the best advertisement for the welfare state. Nor is the recent Ulster Television dramatized series, intended to show what benefits exist, worthy though the motive was. Another series is planned.

The Government claims that public expenditure per head is 30 per cent higher in Ulster than in Britain, but independent observers argue the margin down to a mere two per cent when special factors such as the emergency are taken into account. Any suggestion that the Government should pour money into Ulster until it achieves social and economic parity with Britain is met with helpless references to cash limits. The same Goverment is pouring the balance of £70m into a factory making luxury sports cars for the American market in the middle of a world energy crisis, for the sake of 1,000 jobs.

The more one sees of the present condition of Northern Ireland, the more convincing the argument becomes that the answer to its problem is above all well thought out injections of money in large quantities. The economic philosophy of the present Government is based on the analogy of the good housekeeper who tries to live within his means. The same good housekeeper is capable of forgoing a holiday to convert an abandoned loft into habitable living-space.

West Germany supports an enclave too, in West Berlin, which it keeps alive not only by a massive special subsidy but also by excusing residents 50 per cent of their tax liability and ensuring that they pay no more than the going rate for essentials. The population is comparable. Is there a lesson here?

It is difficult to relate Northern Ireland to Britain because of the troubles and because it is so far away. But its social and economic problems are only extensions of Britain's own malaise, and I saw nothing there I had not already seen in Strathclyde, on Merseyside and Tyneside. There was just more of it in a smaller space.

The real relevance to Britain can be set down in the form of a simple rhetorical question: what would a British Government *not* have done had a similar situation arisen in Kent?

Dan van der Vat

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Intimate revue with its roots in the 30s

Up in the 80s
King's Head

Ned Chaillet

Dan Crawford is as clever a manager as any theatre can expect and his choices have a way of proving popular, so far be it from me to complain that *Up in the 80s* is rooted deep in the 1930s. In its glamorous ocean-liner setting, the revue could even be accused of reaching back to the Roaring Twenties for its style, but the mood is morbid gaiety, depression merriment, and I am sure that it moves at least as far as 1933. It moves no farther, despite joking songs about neutron bombs and microchips, and a lot of the 1980s material is very resistant to immersion in the 1930s style of Neville Phillips and Robb Stewart, words and music respectively.

For musical masters, Mr Stewart inclines to Kurt Weill and Noël Coward, although he knows *Evita* well enough to pillage the score for Mr Phillips's political mockery in *Maggievita*, a jolly romp through "Dear Bill" country, featuring the Prime Minister as "the demon grocer of Grantham". Topical salutes to the annoyances of today are generally less successful and the picture of Coward moving stylishly among the meths drinkers and exploding embassies of 1980s London is not so much satirical as sad.

There are several nicely vicious observations that do come through, including the merry slander of a gay box-office clerk discussing interior decoration on the telephone while paying customers give up and head for the cinema. Such moments are sharper for their slightly poisonous exaggeration and Peter Blythe is exactly right there and elsewhere, in his instant characterization. The two women in the revue, Amanda Barrie and Sheila Reid, are similarly delightful, but the spots written for them are archaic, with images of good-time ladies falling on their backs for an entire naval fleet.

Quite a few people are probably hoping that song, sentiment and comedy will be enough to get them through times of harsh budgets and massive unemployment; theatre managers, publicans and politicians among them. Mr Crawford, being at least the first two, has put his cards on the table, but I doubt that *Up in the 80s* has got the exact mix. A good company, which also includes Martin Smith, offers pleasure when the script allows and that could be enough. I found it too nostalgic to seem timely and too obsessed with the present to win through on sentiment. John Dane's direction, at least, sets a lively pace.

Robin Williams gets a tall order in Popeye

Popeye comes back to the screen at the beginning of next month, in time for the Easter holidays. This time he is not in cartoon form, but a live actor in the shape of Robin Williams. Joan Goodman talked to Mr Williams, night-club entertainer and star of Mork and Mindy, *in Los Angeles.*

Robin Williams (Popeye) and Shelley Duvall (Olive Oyl)

Two years ago the producer Robert Evans asked the comedian Robin Williams, familiar to British audiences from the *Mork and Mindy* television series, to play Popeye on film. "The idea terrified me when he first mentioned it", Williams admits. "But he was so positive in his approach. He asked me: 'Haven't you thought about it? Haven't you ever wanted to play Popeye?' You start by being polite and lying—'Well, yes, I guess now you come to mention it I have'—and end up by being convinced."

Popeye's reincarnation by a live actor comes half a century after the pugnaciously righteous sailor first appeared as one among many characters in E. S. Segar's "Thimble Theatre" comic strip. Popeye, his shrewish girlfriend Olive Oyl, the glutonous Wimpy and the villainous Bluto were an immediate hit with Depression-era readers in the United States. Later, the sailor with a passion for spinach appeared in cartoon series made for cinemas, then for television. As Popeye, Williams is required to sing, dance, do acrobatics and spend most of the film with his right eye firmly closed and a pipe clenched between his teeth—all the while remaining faithful to the image established by the strip and the cartoons. It is a tall order for any performer, let alone for somebody playing his first film role.

The 27-year-old Williams was actually Evans's second choice for the part. The original Popeye, Dustin Hoffman, dropped out of the project after a dispute over the script (written by Jules Feiffer, himself a distinguished cartoonist). Evans has since admitted that at the time he suggested Williams to Paramount Pictures, who financed the film, he had no idea that Williams was already a star thanks to *Mork and Mindy*. He knew him only as a promising young comic from the Los Angeles night-clubs.

However accidental, Williams turned out to be a lucky choice. For one thing, his comedian's bent for improvisation meshed well with the informal, collaborative style of *Popeye*'s director, Robert Altman. For another, Williams has a gift for mimicry as striking as that of the late Peter Sellers (one of his idols). And mimicry rather than declamation or rendering subtle emotions turned out to be the key to playing Popeye.

"Popeye understands his own worth", Williams says. "He's a natural man. Like he says, 'I yam what I yam and that's all that I yam'. We took that statement as our basis. I think we made a very gentle film, we kept the innocence in."

Williams, whose offstage voice is surprisingly soft and shy, worked for a year to lower his speech into Popeye's distinctive growl. At the same time, he honed his body for the strenuous, cartoon-type falls, fights and contortions the part involved. Exercising for three hours a night in the Paramount gym after spending the day on the *Mork and Mindy* stage, Williams trained with Lou Wills Jr, a veteran acrobatic dancer. "And after all that," Williams says, "when Bluto threw his first punch at me on the set, I bent forward when I was supposed to bend back and came away with a bloody nose."

The sort of working schedule *Popeye* demanded was nothing new to Williams, whose overnight stardom in *Mork and Mindy* has led to a succession of 16-hour and 18-hour days. Despite the reputed 30,000 dollars a week he gets for the series and the dispensation—rare in American television—to ad lib his own lines in addition to the written script, Williams still finds his *Mork* role creatively stifling. That is not surprising once you have met him. Even when only two of you are present, a conversation with Williams regularly features a dozen or so extra "characters" Williams adopts, shrugs off then shuffles between at lightning speed. They include the Beverly Hills Blues Singer ("Woke up this morning . . . ran out of Perrier"), the childrens' television host who puts a hamster in a microwave oven to demonstrate the effects of radiation ("Pop goes the weasel") and the elderly wino from the year 2000 ("Maybe you remember me. I used to play an alien on television. Wasn't so funny after they landed.").

Every Monday night, Williams can be found working incognito, as it were, with an improvisation group at The Comedy Store, a Los Angeles club. One of his favourite "bits", as comics call their routines, is to ask the audience to shout out a topic; Williams will proceed to extemporize a Shakespeare play on the subject, in blank verse. Only the occasional cry of "give us Mork" halts his flow of comic invention. He comes to the edge of the stage and replies: "No, no, that's what I come here to get away from."

Williams is the son of a Detroit automobile executive, now retired. "The craziness comes from my mother. She's from the South. My discipline comes from my dad."

Although he has several half-brothers and half-sisters, he was raised as an only child. "I was this lonely little fat kid. When I was by myself, I would invent conversations with other people. I used to rape comedians off the television and study their voices. I also collected armies of toy soldiers and took them on manoeuvres. Kind of scary, huh?

"My parents didn't mind when I said I wanted to be an actor. My father just asked me to learn a trade as well, so I'd have something to fall back on. It was a reasonable request. I went to welding school and lasted one week until the instructor said: 'You can kill yourself if you don't use this torch properly.' I thought: 'Oh, oh, I'm not willing to die.'"

Drama training at the Juilliard School in New York and experience as a stand-up comic in San Francisco followed, before Williams moved to Los Angeles and broke into television.

"I'm still learning how to act for the camera", he admits disarmingly. "Everything's happened so fast—this is only the third season for *Mork and Mindy*. But doing *Popeye* was fun. It was like going back to the discipline of acting after the freedom of stand-up comedy. We filmed on Malta for six months between January and June. It was like a holiday for me—it was wonderful to get away from being recognized and asked for autographs. Valérie [Williams's wife] and I even managed a couple of days off in London. We saw *Nicholas Nickleby* with the Royal Shakespeare Company, the most exciting piece of theatre I've ever seen."

Williams says he wants to do theatre himself. But first there is a film script he is writing with a partner and will star in—"Going the Woody Allen route", he laughs. Charles Joffe, who manages Williams, also manages Allen. And will he direct himself too?

"Oh, no, maybe one day, but it's years away. I saw what a director has to go through on Malta. Just getting the fake forearms I had to wear as Popeye right was a nightmare. The rubber wrinkled, they cut off circulation in my arms. Then the first costume they gave me was all wrong. So much of a film depends on thousands of details like that, all of which Altman had to oversee at once.

"About a week into rehearsals, I went to see Bob [Altman] and we talked about the character. We decided Popeye should evolve through the film. The other people were all cartoons to begin with but he starts out as a realistic sailor looking for his Pappy. Gradually he gets drawn into their world. Then Bob said that, besides saying the written lines in my Popeye voice, I could do a lot of mumbling under my breath. We figured Popeye was a lonely sailor who'd grown used to talking to himself. Bob said I could ad lib the mumbles—they'd be for me. On one or two occasions, when I went too far, they simply lowered the sound."

Joan Goodman

Dedicated company in quest of a text

The Theatre of Mistakes
Jeannetta Cochrane

Anthony Masters

Anthropomorphic furniture seems, so far, to be one of this year's theatrical features. But between William Saroyan's *Playthings* and the Theatre of Mistakes' *Homage to Morandi* (playing lunchtime this week at the Jeannetta Cochrane) is the distance separating Hanslick and Scriabin.

Morandi has an intellectual rigour and toughness that should commend it as stimulation for any acute, sensitive minds numbed by working-day boredom around Southampton Row, unless they are alarmed by the company's description of the play: "A work of oppositions, animate with inanimate, the figurative with the abstract, life with art".

The 40-minute script is sustained by three actors and a stage full of portable furniture: chairs, suitcases, wardrobe. Each actor's costume identifies him by colour with one of these and, by visual and verbal means, human deployment of props develops into an exchange of roles with them.

However aridly worked out, the show stealthily creates, despite the performers' rigid discipline, an intimate sense of pathos and fear which the artist Morandi would surely have understood, as well as visibly reproducing the uneasy placements and shadows of his still lifes.

It also has a vein of humour, incongruity precisely realized, that comes out more fully in the evening show, *Going*. This is (and here the description is perfect) "a fugue put together out of the verbal and physical mannerisms of departure".

Suitable phrases, "Why do you have to go?", "I really must go", make up a subtly varied subject (in the musical sense) for a piece whose formal intricacies determine everything from word and gesture to the costume of the five participants.

Successive sections, signalled by the lighting of different lamps above the black-walled set, launch the fugue's subject on a different sequence of "voices", while the introduction of new elements is as precisely calculated as it would be in Bach. As in the shorter play, sinister silences punctuate the simple statements (the control of pace is spectacular) and suggest nightmarish, helpless imprisonment in one pattern of behaviour and one place, coldly delineated by a painted line on the stage.

But, though appealing, it feels sterile; the content is over-extended, and the form is too great a part of it. This dedicated company is still groping for the text, combining complexity, austerity and theatrical resonance, which will enable it to say what it can say and nobody else can.

Daphnis and Chloe

Covent Garden

John Percival

An almost completely shuffled cast of principals in *Daphnis and Chloe* at Covent Garden on Monday still left the ballet looking sadly bedraggled. The one positive gain was to have Rosalyn Whitten as Lykanion, throwing *herself* at Daphnis with a convincingly greedy appetite. Such a shame, then, to have *him* look absolutely shattered at what he apparently regarded as a fate worse than death.

In fairness to Julian Hosking, whose Daphnis remained otherwise smooth but insipid throughout, he had been put on unexpectedly in place of Mark Silver, who ought to have suited the part but fell ill. The plot makes Daphnis such a droopy fellow that a dancer with some natural sharpness is needed to make anything of it.

Equally, only a man of natural authority can really get away with playing his rival, Dorkon. If you try to act tough, the solo begins to look silly, which was Michael Batchelor's undoing. That, and a couple of slips which he saved, but only just; perhaps is why some of the chorus were looking concerned when the music said they should be laughing at him.

Marguerite Porter played Chloe. Hard luck on her to have a Lykanion who looked far younger than she did, but she was out of her depth anyway in a role made for Fonteyn. I could sympathize with her for not being able to wring anything like Fonteyn's pathos out of the solo in captivity, but was distressed by the fancy way she played the dance of joy at her release, turning all those wonderfully simple arm movements into affected shrugs.

In *Façade*, Sandra Conley made a soignée Debutante: fun, although ideally one would like more innocence here too. Stephen Sheriff's sprightly account of the Scottish Rhapsody set the ballet off to a good start.

Billy Cobham

Round House

Richard Williams

The Camden Festival Jazz Week opened on Monday with an evening of unusual variety. We heard music which resembled advertising jingles for instant coffee, music which might have been designed specifically to soothe delayed passengers in airport lounges, and passable imitations of disco music and that egregious variety of rock and roll known as heavy-metal. What we did not hear was much jazz.

The only music of lasting value, in fact, occupied around 30 seconds of the evening. It came from Ray Warleigh, the consistently imaginative alto saxophonist, who rose out of Dave MacRae's 12-piece Current Event on a piece called "Four-minute Warning" to deliver a solo which flared and died with the evanescent brilliance of a falling star.

Current Event, consisting of five horns, one voice, and an expanded rhythm section, performed seven of MacRae's compositions, any of which might in other contexts have been taken for incidental music. There was no evident attempt at original manipulation of the available instrumentation, and the charts were performed in an appropriately robotic manner largely wasting the talents of several worthy musicians. Why this project was deemed worthy of an Arts Council bursary is anybody's guess.

Billy Cobham's latest venture, a quintet named Glass Menagerie, shares with MacRae's music the implicit suggestion that, rather than taking a valuable place in a heavily sponsored jazz festival, it ought more properly to be subject to the pressures of the commercial market place.

The American percussionist, whose flashy exploits with the Mahavishnu Orchestra turned him, like some latter-day Buddy Rich, into a hero of the drum-clinics, is a marvellous technician and a peerless session-man. Left to his own devices as a bandleader, he heads straight for the lowest common denominator.

Michael Urbaniak delivered several accomplished but superficial solos on violin and lyricon (a wind synthesizer which sounds alternately like a half-drowned clarinet and a soprano saxophone lost in a fog), and the Santana-ish guitarist, Michael Stern, was responsible for their only memorable composition, a relaxed, bluesy ballad titled "Vanessa".

Cobham's own playing was certainly more subdued than on some past occasions, and his single-stroke rolls are still as smooth as a cat's purr.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Exciting opera by Stockhausen

Donnerstag
La Scala, Milan

William Mann

The more advanced composers of our day insist that opera is an antique shop, elitist, a no-longer-viable musical genre, but they cannot do without it. All music is about human experience, articulated in audible gestures or evocative tableaux, the dance and the rite, to be seen as well as heard, by intention wholly exhibitionistic, therefore requiring some sort of stage. However pure your creative intentions may be, however remote from the legacy of Monteverdi, Mozart, Verdi, Wagner and Puccini, your platform is a theatre, and sooner or later you cannot (and should not) resist the summons.

Karl-Heinz Stockhausen, the most restlessly questing composer of his generation (he was born in 1928), infinitely ambitious, completely out of sympathy with his musical inheritance, has also succumbed, and honourably. His first true opera, a work in three acts, had its premiere on Sunday at the operagoer's Mecca, La Scala in Milan. Hostages were not given to this great act of fortune: the work is totally typical, original in every respect.

Stockhausen, like many of his vanguard contemporaries, dallied for a while with music-theatre, the spectacular concert-piece whose music involves performers moving round the platform or auditorium. His colleague in Cologne, the high-spirited Mauricio Kagel, must have stimulated him in that direction, though Stockhausen's identity as a composer is much more serious, visionary in purpose, his ultimate ambition to compose music for inter-galactic performance, no less.

He has made a fresh start by determining to compose a cycle of seven operas, one for each day of the week: the whole is entitled *Licht* ("Light"). *Donnerstag* ("Thursday"), the first of them to reach completion, is the day of Thor for us (for Italians, it is named after Jove), and for Stockhausen it belongs to St Michael, the archangel who got rid of Chaos and Old Night in their Draconian guise and who is the hero of *Donnerstag*.

Stockhausen imagines the archangel descending to earth like Jesus in order to live as a terrestrial man, grow up, teach and suffer. There was material here for exciting scenes, and the libretto does specify a sort of Passion with crucifixion preceded by humiliation, though it seems to have got lost in the staging at Milan by Luca Ronconi.

Michael is the son of a German schoolmaster too absorbed with history, mathematics and war-mongering patriotism to educate his son in other subjects. In the opening scene, Michael learns to speak, to shoot wild animals, a young playmate, too, also to sing the patriotic songs which his father loves but for which Michael has not much time.

From his mother Michael learns music, and love. Her instrument is the basset-horn, but when she offers him a toy one to play he prefers his father's gift of a trumpet—not for martial fanfares but for rallying calls of a peaceful, more coaxing nature. Mother produces two other children, also a female dancer, an extension of herself, whom little Michael watches with fascination. The gentle melodious warbling of the basset-horn returns to him in adolescence, personified by a girl, half-bird, who plays that instrument in a forest where he is walking with his trumpet, and who completes his sexual education.



Karl-Heinz Stockhausen

The mother suffers a nervous breakdown and dies in a mental hospital. Father goes to war, and is killed, together with his trombone-playing and dancing other selves. They return, disguised, as the jury of Michael's entrance examination to musical conservatory: he passes, with flying colours, in singing, trumpet-playing and ballet, recapitulating his childhood experiences in terms of his relationships with, respectively, mother, father and independent self. An important character here is Michael's piano accompanist, a role expressly designed for, and forthcomingly played by, Stockhausen's daughter, Majella.

That is the first act of *Thursday*, musically conveyed by electronic background to song, speech, a whole vocabulary of intermediary articulate sounds, with which all three characters punctuate their singing, and instrumental solos, plus choral music pre-recorded in Germany and relayed around the auditorium here.

In the second act, Michael and his trumpet betake themselves to the South Pole, where they find a large symphony orchestra attired as penguins (for practical purposes only non-playing extras actually wear penguin-heads, but formal evening dress makes the required effect for the orchestra players). A huge model globe dominates the stage. Michael enters it, and proceeds to travel round the world making seven stops, in Japan, India, New York, Israel and so on, places where Stockhausen, too, has notched up his triumphs.

This act is purely orchestral, a dramatic trumpet concerto which includes dialogues between Michael and members of the orchestra (including an outstanding exchange for trumpet and double bass); there are other instrumental characters, too, notably a pair of clowning clarinet-players whose banter brings a welcome sense of humour to the predominantly serious proceedings. Mondeva, Michael's basset-horn avian sweetheart, returns also, recalling him from his travels for an instrumental love duet and final departure together, pursued by catcalls from the clowns. It is all high-spirited, and eventful, large-textured music in which one does not have time to regret the absence of singing voices.

They will return in the third act, which takes place in Heaven where Michael and Mondeva are welcomed by Mother Eve with a festival of song, choral music, dance, botany and coloured light-pictures. We move here quite close to the more recondite of Goethe's special studies, and indeed the form of this third act has not a little in common with the final scene from part two of *Faust*, as set by Mahler in his eighth symphony. Lucifer, a projection of Michael's father, makes an unwelcome intrusion, but is finally ejected, and the opera ends with a vision in which the three Michaels take their leave of the audience.

Donnerstag is something of a Stockhausen family affair. The light-compositions, in the final act, are the work of his wife, Mary Bauermeister; Michael the trumpeter is his son Markus, a virtuoso soloist in his own right; and besides Majella the pianist, another son, Simon Stockhausen, has a role as saxophonist on stage in the third act—he may also have been envisaged as one of the clowns in Act II.

Obviously the last act is the culmination of *Donnerstag*. Alas, at the world premiere it could not be performed: the chorus of La Scala, having been told by Stockhausen to sing like soloists (if I understand their statement aright), demanded to be paid as soloists. The management of La Scala refused, and so the chorus equally refused to appear. There are hopes that the dispute may be settled before this first series of performances is over.

Those of us who live elsewhere had to be content with two acts only. We had the consolation of Gae Aulenti's exquisitely imaginative scenic designs in a style of heightened realism, most evocative in the forest with huge attendant bird-figures. Ronconi's production is sympathetic, bold and eminently resourceful, with Kabuki-style stage-hands clad in black and virtually invisible. Great praise is due to the orchestra of La Scala, and the conductor, Peter Eötvös, fully a match for the special demands of the second act—the influence of La Scala's chief conductor, Claudio Abbado, was much in evidence.

For the principal singers, Robert Gambill as Michael, Annette Meriweather as Eva and Mathias Hölle, a splendid bass, as the father Lucifer, no applause could be too ecstatic: words, pitch precision and complete naturalness of delivery and movement made this new and challenging opera seem hardly controversial at all.

As we left the theatre, trumpets stationed in first-floor windows on all sides of the square played Michael's *Leitmotif* in sweetly harmonious polyphony, as the planned coda to the composition, a lovely idea. I do hope that the scenarios for the rest of Stockhausen's operatic week (it will make *The Ring* look almost an epigram) involve rather more dramatic conflict and invigorating incident. As Goethe put it, one can bear anything except an unbroken succession of beautiful days.

Cast changes in Coppelia

Dudley von Loggenburg is undergoing medical treatment and was therefore replaced last in London Festival Ballet's production of *Coppelia* at the London Coliseum by Ben van Cauwenbergh. At the Saturday matinée Jay Jolley will be making his debut in the role of Franz, and next Wednesday Nicholas Johnson will dance the role.

RSC to do La Ronde

The Royal Shakespeare Company is to present Arthur Schnitzler's play *La Ronde* in London next January, in a production by John Barton with a cast including Susan Fleetwood, Richard Pasco, Judy Buxton, Michael Pennington, Barbara Leigh-Hunt and Carol Royle.

Maxwell Davies works for Bath Festival

The premiere of Peter Maxwell Davies's piano sonata, given by Stephen Pruslin, will be one of a series of first performances at this year's *Bath Festival*, which also presents the first English performance of the composer's opera *The Lighthouse*.

In the festival, from May 22 to June 7, there will be premieres of an electronic work by Denis Smalley, *Word Within*, a new piano work by Nigel Osborne, and John Mayer's *Ragamalas* for cello and tanpura. Among the artists appearing will be Julian Bream, the Beaux Arts Trio of New York, Andre Tchaikowsky, Bob Berky and Cécile Ousset.

Football

Greenwood party gives his detractors further ammunition

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ron Greenwood, the England manager, will not be cajoled into breaking away from his established group of players. Yesterday he passed over another opportunity to move towards a policy of youth when announcing the squad for next Wednesday's friendly match against Spain at Wembley.

The match represents one of only two opportunities this year to give newcomers experience against foreign opposition without hurling them straight into World Cup games. Mr Greenwood prefers to think that the basis of the group of players who showed their limitations in the European Championship in Italy last summer, although now, admittedly, with the welcome availability of Francis, should remain until next year's World Cup final competition in Spain. He may be right, but his critics are gathering their material.

Although the squad includes Osman, Butcher, Hoddle and, significantly, Barnes, the remainder are the familiar brigade. Kennedy has defected, tired of being a member of the party without receiving too many caps as presents, but there is ample cover in midfield as well as a powerful selection of forwards. The defence has lost Mills, who has a damaged shoulder, but Osman and Butcher are there to challenge Watson and Thompson. Indeed, they may both play.

By including Barnes who has not played for England since the 4—1 defeat by Wales last year, Mr Greenwood renews interest in having a winger, thus reopening a broad tactical argument about the style of the team. Of similar importance to the pattern of the side is the return of Keegan whose presence ensures vitality in support of the attack but causes the feeling that everything will once more revolve around his talent.

Mr Greenwood is now under appreciable pressure to involve younger player, not merely in the squad, but the teams in this busy and important year. Two of the party for the game against Spain come to mind as particularly talented; Hoddle, who must be wondering which will come first—his club testimonial or a regular England place—and Osman whose performances for Ipswich Town in the first division this season have been so impressive.

The policy is that of minimum or only enforced change with emphasis on loyalty to the players in possession. This is a laudable sentiment but a little worrying in view of the form and fitness of some established players. Keegan, who has missed all three England matches this season, was in good fettle for Southampton last weekend, but is so regularly injured that there is no guarantee that he will be available for the World Cup finals, providing England qualify. Watson is patiently near the end of his international career and it is important to let Osman have international experience in some friendly games before being introduced to the World Cup.

Several injuries to Thompson, the Liverpool central defender, leave his availability in doubt, but Mr Greenwood's decision for the match against Switzerland in November was to move Robson into that position. The West Bromwich Albion player though is most valuable in midfield. The flirtation with "sweeper" centre backs is apparently over.

Once again some of England's brightest prospects will be playing in an England 'B' game against Spain in Granada on the same day as the international match. Devonshire and Shaw had legitimate claims for promotion to the senior party and it is regrettable that they are not being given experience at the higher level.



Trevor Francis: back in England party after injury.

England party

	Caps
R. Clemence (Liverpool)	52
P. Shilton (Nottingham Forest)	25
P. Neal (Liverpool)	39
P. Thompson (Liverpool)	28
D. Watson (Southampton)	59
R. Osman (Ipswich)	1
T. Butcher (Ipswich)	1
K. Sansom (Arsenal)	12
T. McDermott (Liverpool)	15
G. Hoddle (Tottenham)	4
B. Robson (West Bromwich Albion)	5
R. Wilkins (Manchester United)	35
T. Brooking (West Ham)	40
S. Coppell (Manchester United)	27
T. Francis (Nottingham Forest)	18
K. Keegan (Southampton)	54
A. Woodcock (FC Cologne)	16
P. Mariner (Ipswich)	13
P. Barnes (West Bromwich Albion)	16

ENGLAND B PARTY: J. Corrigan (Manchester City), G. Bailey (Manchester United), B. Batson (West Bromwich Albion), W. Wright (Everton), S. Elliott (Sunderland), A. Martin (West Ham), D. Statham, S. Williams (Southampton), D. Mortimer (Aston Villa), A. Devonshire (West Ham), G. Rix (Arsenal), E. Gates (Ipswich), K. Reeves (Manchester City), G. Shaw (Aston Villa), A. Morley (Aston Villa), C. Regis (West Bromwich Albion), A. Sunderland (Arsenal).

Reasons for Liverpool to tread with caution

From Norman Fox
Sofia, March 17

Slightly the worse for a wearing Football League Cup final against West Ham United on Saturday, Liverpool travelled east today glad that the ground work for tomorrow's European Cup quarter-final second leg against CSKA Sofia was done at Anfield a fortnight ago. The 5—1 lead that came when the Bulgarian champions buckled under pressure should be more than enough, though there are good reasons for caution.

Earlier this season Nottingham Forest, holders of the trophy, came here and lost 1—0 but thought they would recover at home. They also lost 1—0 at the City Ground, however, and indeed CSKA did not concede a goal in the competition until they came up against Liverpool. Any over-confidence should also be tempered by the memory of another journey to the east last season, when Liverpool lost 3—0 to Dinamo in Tbilisi, where tomorrow West Ham have their sympathy and good wishes.

Saturday's League Cup final left Dalglish, McDermott and Hansen nursing a few bruises, but with Johnson, who missed Wembley with a temperature, hoping to be available, the outcome tomorrow ought not to be a matter of debate, although such games have their own problems.

If Liverpool sit back and challenge Sofia to pull back four goals, they could discover that this talented team are capable of doing so. There was little doubt that in the first half at Anfield Sofia were the more skilful side and had their finishing been accurate their task tomorrow would be much less onerous.

The lesson from Saturday's *match against West Ham was that* Liverpool these days need to score early to restore faith in themselves. They are also unsure defensively without Thompson, who has been left in England for treatment to an injured thigh. *Their frustration when they fail* to score arrives earlier than it did and it would *be no bad thing tomorrow if they sought to* increase their lead in the first 15 *minutes*, thus at least balancing Sofia's away goal.

Bob Paisley, the manager, cannot expect Souness to score with such explosive shots as he did in the first leg, nor the superb Sofia centre-forward, Djevisov, to miss so many chances again.

The Bulgarians have had a fortnight to sharpen their physical fitness after their close season. It was Sofia's tiredness that finally allowed Liverpool to take such a substantial lead at Anfield, but on home ground the situation will be different. A victory for Sofia would not be surprising, but Liverpool *would have to forget* more than a decade of experience to lose another chance of a place in the semi-final round.

SOFIA: G. Velinov; I. Zafirov, D. Dimitrov, Z. Vasilev, R. Rangelov, G. Iliev, J. Yonchev, P. Markov, S. Djevisov, R. Zdravkov, N. Velkov.
LIVERPOOL: R. Clemence; P. Neal, A. Kennedy, C. Irwin, R. Kennedy, A. Hansen, K. Dalglish, S. Lee, J. Case, T. McDermott, G. Souness.

Cricket

Gooch and Gower do their best to postpone the inevitable

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Bridgetown, March 17

What an irony! When England looked to have got the measure, albeit briefly, of the West Indian fast bowlers, Vivian Richards came on here this evening purveying seemingly trifling little off breaks and ended their hopes of making a fight of the third Test match. He removed Gower first, after he and Gooch had added 120, and then Butcher; so, when the day ended with England 166 for five, there was nothing much left for tomorrow. England's target, for what it matters, is 523.

Clive Lloyd settled for a lunchtime declaration, after a furious burst of West Indian strokeplay, and England lost their first two wickets in Holding's opening over. The contrast between the end of the West Indian innings and the start of England's was devastating; where Richards and Lloyd had toyed with much of the England bowling, Boycott and Gatting were removed off successive balls and with only two runs on the board.

What had seemed to be—and was—a slower, easier pitch than earlier in the match came to life, due of course to the vastly different quality of the bowling. The ball which accounted for Boycott, Holding's fifth, flew at him; the next, which bowled Gatting, kept low. Boycott's desperate attempt at a parry cocked gently into the gully.

As Gatting walked out, his leg stump at a drunken angle, it seemed that the match might be over today. But Gower was given a life when he was 17, Greenidge and Richards leaving a slip catch to each other, as well as the benefit of the doubt in several close calls for leg before. With Gooch looking encouragingly solid hopes revived. At tea Gower and Gooch had taken the score to 94 for two and afterwards they were going along happily enough when Richards struck.

It was to bowl at the left-handed Gower, out of the rough of the bowlers' footmarks, that Richards was brought on and this was what he was doing when he took the first of his wickets. Against the fast bowlers both Gooch and Gower had played some fine strokes: of the 120 they added together 70 came in boundaries, mostly off the middle of the bat and as many in front of the wicket as behind it. Now, trying in that casual way of his to run Richards down to third man, Gower chopped the ball into his stumps.

Butcher batted for half an hour, determined to fight it out though to defend is not his natural game. He has had a lovely reception from his fellow countrymen, none nicer than from Haynes when he got to the wicket in the first innings. Less friendly was the way the ball from Richards, which had him leg before on the back foot this evening, shot straight along the ground. That was 134 for four with nearly an hour left.

When Botham was caught at first slip off Roberts, he, Boycott, Gatting and Butcher, four of the first six in the order, had scored four runs between them. Gooch continued until the end, no longer a symbol of hope but at least setting the others an example. Willey was with him as the shadows crossed the ground and the fast bowlers were back in complete control, even moving the ball about more than they had done when it was new.

It is not often, mercifully, that England have a worse morning. Botham seemed to see the awful imbalance of it as an inevitability: although Lloyd and Richards were doing much as they pleased, it was 85 minutes before he made his one and only bowling change. By then, with England in disarray, even West Indians in the crowd were chanting "We want Jackman". On Sunday Jackman was England's best and most economical bowler. Today another 87 runs had been scored in 13 overs before he was called upon. When he was, Richards tore into him with ever greater vigour than he had torn into Dilley.

Botham bowled with two long legs for Lloyd and with three men on the leg boundary, two behind square and one only just in front, for Richards—on a small ground and against two of the finest hookers in the world. Boycott stood, *wherever he happened to* be, with his arms folded, not exactly shaking his head but doing the next best thing.

The Englishman to get the most out of the morning's play was probably Dilley, who will have learnt from the experience. Gradually he came to terms with what was required in the way of where and how to bowl to two great players in full cry. Half an hour before lunch Botham picked up the only two wickets to fall, both in the same over. Lloyd, with his eye on a second hundred in the match, was given out leg before to his obvious surprise (he departed rubbing the inside of his thigh) and Roberts was very well caught by Bairstow, diving to his right into an area devoid of slips.

It was an astonishing innings by Richards, chanceless except for a fierce return catch to Botham when he was 116, yet culminating in a display of improvised ferocity.

WEST INDIES: First Innings, 265 (C. H. Lloyd 100, H. A. Gomes 58; I. T. Botham 4 for 77)

Second Innings

C. G. Greenidge, lbw, b Dilley 0
D. L. Haynes, lbw, b Botham 25
I. V. A. Richards, not out 182
E. H. Mattis, c Butcher, b Emburey 24
H. A. Gomes, run out [illegible]
*C. H. Lloyd, lbw, b Botham 66
A. M. E. Roberts, c Bairstow, b Botham [illegible]
†D. A. Murray, not out [illegible]
Extras [illegible]
Total (7 wkts dec) 379

J. Garner and M. A. Holding did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—0, 2—57, 3—71, 4—130, 5—212, 6—365, 7—365.

BOWLING: Dilley, 25—3—111—1; Botham, 25—1—102—3; Jackman, 25—5—76—0; Emburey, 24—7—57—1; Willey, 6—0—23—0.

ENGLAND: First Innings 122 (C. E. H. Croft 4 for 39).

Second Innings

G. Boycott, c Garner, b Holding 1
G. A. Gooch, not out 88
M. W. Gatting, b Holding 0
D. I. Gower, b Richards 54
R. O. Butcher, lbw, b Richards 2
*I. T. Botham, c Lloyd, b Roberts 1
P. Willey, not out 13
Extras (b 1, l-b 3, n-b 3) 7
Total (for 5 wkts) 166

†D. L. Bairstow, J. E. Emburey, R. D. Jackman and G. R. Dilley to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—2, 2—2, 3—122, 4—134, 5—139.

BOWLING (to date): Roberts, 14—3—31—1; Holding, 11—3—35—2; Croft, 12—0—50—0; Garner, 7—1—25—0; Richards, 13—3—18—2.

Umpires: D. Archer and D. Sang Hue.

Vengsarkar and Patil keep hopes alive

Auckland, March 17.—An unbroken fifth wicket stand of 54 between Vengsarkar and Patil kept India's hopes alive in the third and final Test match against New Zealand here today. India, who were 128 behind on the first innings after dismissing the home side for 366, were 197 for four at the close of the fourth day today.

The touring team's main hope is that their slow bowlers find the pitch as helpful as it was for the New Zealand off spinner, Bracewell. He took two for 31 from 32 overs and helped to reduce India to 93 for three before Vengsarkar, in stands with Viswanath and Patil, tilted the balance.

Viswanath, who totalled 18 in his four previous Test innings, hit 46 before being run out when he was called for a sharp single. He and Vengsarkar added 50 for the fourth wicket. The revival was sustained by Patil, who batted aggressively for an unbeaten 36. Vengsarkar continued to play a passive role and was 20 not out at the end of the day when India led by 69.

India quickly terminated New Zealand's innings, when they resumed at 357 for eight. The left-arm spinner, L. Shastri, dismissed Cairns and Bracewell after only nine were added. Shastri finished with five for 125 and brought his haul in the series to 13 wickets.

INDIA: First Innings: 238 [illegible]

Second Innings

S. M. Gavaskar, c Wright, b Bracewell [illegible]
C. Chauhan, c Cairns, b Bracewell [illegible]
T. Srinivasan, c Wright, b Cairns [illegible]
G. R. Viswanath, run out 46
D. B. Vengsarkar, not out 20
S. M. Patil, not out 36
Extras [illegible]
Total (4 wkts) 197

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—43, 2—50, 3—93, 4—143.

R. Shastri, S. M. H. Kirmani, K. Dev, S. Yadav, D. R. Doshi to bat.

BOWLING (to date): Hadlee, 17—5—46—0; Snedden, 7—5—[illegible]—0; Cairns, 28—13—33—1; Bracewell, 32—15—31—2; Coney, 4—1—5—0; Howarth, 6—3—11—0.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings, 357 for 8 dec (J. G. Wright 110, J. F. Reid 74, J. V. Coney 65).—Reuter.

Keegan now restored to full stature

By John Nicholls
Southampton 3 Everton 0

At last, in their fourth meeting this season, Southampton managed to beat Everton. This hard-fought and eventually well-deserved victory will go some way towards avenging their defeat at Everton's hands in the FA Cup and it lifts them to third place in the League table. The match was a personal triumph for Keegan, now apparently restored to full fitness and to the England party. He was the outstanding player on the field and his twelfth minute opening goal was his fourth in three matches.

In the absence of George, Keegan played as a striker and once again he showed how effective he can be when given his head. He caused the Everton defence no end of trouble and his constant movement on and off the ball always had purpose. In the sixty-third minute, when the visitors were still searching for an equalizer, Keegan popped up again and his short, inspired pass to Baker presented the midfield player with the second, conclusive goal.

Keegan's goal was a memorable solo effort, one goal against the entire Everton defence. He collected the ball from Williams on the halfway line and set off down the right touchline. Outpacing the immediate defenders, he cut inside and dribbled round two or three more players before dummying McDonagh and scoring with ease.

Only a minute before, McMahon had missed a scoring chance from a similar situation and his fumbled effort only served to highlight the difference between Keegan and the rest. Wells did well to deflect McMahon's attempt to dribble round him and Holmes was there to scramble the ball away. Eastoe also missed a good opportunity and later struck the crossbar.

Everton undoubtedly had their chances, but once the second goal went in, time was against them. The second goal ought to have come a good deal earlier, but Channon drove a penalty straight at McDonagh and the ball cannoned up into the air and over the bar.

In the eighty-third minute Puckett, making his first *senior* appearance, replaced Channon and immediately had an impact on the match. After a determined run up the left wing he was fouled and quickly flighted an accurate free kick into the goalmouth. Moran headed it down and Williams, with an innocuous-looking, bouncing shot deceived McDonagh.

SOUTHAMPTON: P. Wells; I. Golac, N. Holmes, S. Williams, D. Watson, C. Nicholl, K. Keegan, M. Channon (sub, D. Puckett), G. Baker, S. Moran, A. Ball.

EVERTON: J. McDonagh; J. Gidman, K. Ratcliffe, B. Wright, M. Lyons (sub, J. McBride), G. Stanley, S. McMahon, P. Eastoe, I. Varadi, A. Hartford, T. Ross.

Referee: R. Lewis (Great Bookham).

Rugby Union

Irwin opts out of Ireland's tour to S Africa

David Irwin, the Ireland centre, pulled out of the tour of South Africa yesterday. Irwin, a fifth year medical student at Queen's University, said the tour clashed with his examinations and that it would be impossible for him to rearrange them.

Donal Canniffe, the Landsdowne scrum half, who was to have been an Irish replacement against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday has withdrawn. He is replaced by Barry O'Connor (Palmerston).

Half strength

The England selectors have named a party of 45 players for the under-23 training weekend at Bisham Abbey on March 27 to 29. The party is particularly strong at half-back.

ENGLAND U-23 (training party): Full backs: N. Stringer, P. Ford, S. Lowden. Three-quarters: D. Trick, S. Smith, A. Swift, G. Pills, S. Moriarty, N. Bagge, N. McDowell, B. Barley, R. Pellow, R. Barker, R. Bodenham, T. Bullimore. Half-backs: M. Perry, P. Williams, J. Ager, N. Melville, I. Peck, N. Youngs. Props: M. Preedy, T. Harris, C. Hocking, S. Ashmead, P. Curtis, S. Henderson. Hookers: M. Howe, M. Dixon, M. Duffelin. Locks: C. Butcher, N. Roberts, D. Cusini, J. Sampson, M. Rose, P. Stiff. Flankers: J. Gadd, R. Stevenson, A. Dun, T. Allchurch, S. Tipping, C. Mather. No. 8s: J. Macklin, M. Teague, S. Hughes.

Slemen has even more goals to achieve

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Before the start of the Calcutta Cup match last month a former Scottish international of much distinction, who will be relieved to remain nameless, expressed the view that Mike Slemen was somewhat over the hill. The England and British Lions wing then caused him to reconsider that verdict by scoring one memorable try himself, setting up another for Huw Davies with a remarkable sense of vision, and putting the stamp of a world class player on everything he did.

Against France on Saturday, Slemen will be winning his twenty-fourth consecutive cap, four more than Peter Jackson, the Coventry genius, and one fewer than C. N. Lowe, of Blackheath, between 1913 and 1923. Only one England wing, Peter Squires, of Harrogate and Yorkshire, has won more caps (29) for his country. The total of David Duckham, the most capped of England backs with 36, includes 14 matches at centre.

It seems probable that England's players will be offered full caps for the two internationals in Argentina in May and June, but Slemen will not be playing. He has decided that he needs a rest after two summers away from home. Slemen feels he owes a debt to the school where he teaches, Merchant Taylors', Crosby. "*And*", he adds, "I owe some time to my wife, and two young children." Maurice Colclough will be another absentee from the tour, and Peter Wheeler, who wins his twenty-eighth cap on Saturday, has still to make up his mind.

Slemen, who is 29, is inclined to think that the try he scored against Scotland, his sixth for England, was the most satisfying *of them all*. "*It was nice*", *he* reflects, "to have been involved twice in one flowing movement on both sides of the pitch". The try illustrated Slemen's instinct for keeping himself in the game, and not standing waiting in the wings for something to happen.

Silken running and a subtle change of pace are things the rugby player is born with, but the sense of involvement which Slemen brings may spring from a versatile experience in his earlier days. Between 11 and 17, he played regularly as a scrum half at St Edward's School, Liverpool. In his last year there, he achieved the feat of appearing in every position behind the scrummage except the wing.

"Then I had a year with the Liverpool club at fly half", he recalls. "I was only the third choice scrum half, so I knew which side my bread was buttered. After that, I went to St Luke's, where there was a surplus of fly halves, including Neil Bennett. So, I got in on the wing, and I've stayed there, more or less, ever since."

A memory of Slemen dropping goals from midfield leads me to wonder whether he is a stand-off *manqué*. "Well, yes, in a way", he concedes. "You see more of the ball in that position. But it's a specialist place, and I've no ambitions to perform there at senior level."

He thinks England's task on Saturday will be very difficult. "France have won three matches—perhaps without great expectations when it all started—and they've got a lot to play for. But this England side is capable of winning if the forwards can get the platform right. I thought they did a really gutsy job in Dublin despite all the difficulties. I take my hat off to Colin Smart, who battled away in an unfamiliar role on the tight head side."

Roland Bertranne, the French centre, will equal Benoit Dauga's national record of 50 caps against International Board countries on Saturday. Bill Beaumont, who set a new record for an England captain in the first match of the championship against Wales, will be leading his country for the seventeenth time. His thirtieth cap will put him level with Eric Evans and seventh in the all-time England list, those ahead of him being, Neary (43), Pullin (42), Duckham (36), Rogers (34), W. W. (Lord) Wakefield (31) and Cotton (31).

Bayern unlikely to rely on defence

Bayern Munich, the West German champions, will be fighting to defend a 2—0 lead over Banik Ostrava of Czechoslovakia in their European Cup quarter-final second leg match tonight. Although the Bavarians have not been in top form lately, and only *managed a* 1—1 draw against Stuttgart at the weekend, they are expected to aim to consolidate their lead with the fast breaks for which they are renowned.

Banik, who went into the first leg almost immediately after a three-month mid-winter lay-off from competitive football, have improved from match to match since the restart. They have not conceded a goal in four league games and have scored 10 themselves.

Banik will still be without their injured defender Vojacek, but the centre back Radimec returns after suspension. The Czechoslovaks hold second place in their league with 27 points from 19 matches and they warmed up for the West Germans with a 4—0 win over Lokomotiva Kosice. Neither side has announced a team for tonight's match which will be played before a capacity crowd of 30,000, but few changes are expected.

Red Star Belgrade drew their *first leg against Inter-Milan* 1—1 and must fancy their chances at home. A 2—1 win over Vojvodina leaves them on top of their league as clubs below them all dropped points. By contrast, Inter fell to the only goal away to Roma on Sunday and their fourth place is threatened. Real Madrid and Spartak Moscow are playing their *quarter-final second leg in Spain* tomorrow.

Heavy snowfalls have delayed the English second division leaders West Ham United, on their way to Georgia for the second leg of their Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final against Dinamo Tbilisi. The team, accompanied by supporters, were to have flown to Tbilisi on *Monday night but had to spend the* night in Moscow. They were due to continue their journey yesterday in time for today's match in which West Ham face a 4—1 deficit after the first leg.

Feyenoord, second only to AZ'67 Alkmaar in the Dutch League, will not fear their 3—2 deficit against Slavia Sofia of Bulgaria. A 6—0 weekend victory must leave Feyenoord confident in a match which will be shorn of three leading players—two of them Bulgarians—banned for earlier offences.

Feyenoord hope that their international defender, Wijnsteker, will curb Tsetkov, who scored twice in Sofia, but a thigh injury may keep the Dutch team's Icelandic striker, Petursson, out of the match.

In the Uefa Cup AZ'67 take a modest 2—0 lead across the Belgian border for their match with Lokeren. The Belgians pin their hopes on their international midfield player, Verheyen, who is fit *again, and the Dane Larsen, back* from suspension.

Wasteful Wolves fluff a marvellous opportunity

By Nicholas Harling
Birmingham 1 Wolverhampton 0

With profligacy that they can ill afford in their still precarious position Wolverhampton Wanderers last night lost their rearranged game at St Andrew's as well as the opportunity of putting more space between them and the teams at the bottom of the first division.

Had Wolves finished with anything approaching precision they would comfortably have ended their appalling record of not having won away from home in any competition for almost a year. As it was Bill Nicholson, the representative of Tottenham Hotspur, *the team Wolves meet in* the FA Cup semi-final round on April 11, and the rest of us watched in disbelief as Birmingham won a game in which they could have received a hiding.

From as early as the third minute it became obvious that Wolves had decided that the depressing sequence had gone on long enough. Collecting a long throw by Parkin, Richards shot against the legs of Wealands, Dennis clearing the rebound for a corner. Gray then deliberated too long, after rounding the goalkeeper in Wolves's next raid and Gallagher was able to clear. An upright kept out the next shot from Richards, Clarke was denied by his own inaccuracy and then the bar got in the way when Hughes, who was playing his first senior game for three months, advanced to try his luck.

Since the almost endless category of near things originated from Birmingham's benevolence and not any scintillating attacking performance by Wolves, the game as a spectacle was scarcely enlivened. Birmingham had some excuse. Circumstances had prevented them from playing for 17 days and they seemed rusty.

Not even Worthington had injected much of his usual improvization until he first served notice that Birmingham might win the game. He produced a shot that Bradshaw did well to parry and Evans's attempt to score from the rebound was thwarted by Berry at the painful expense of a collision with a post. Five minutes later, in the seventy-fifth minutt, Worthington got the touch that mattered after Gallagher had laid Ainscow's fierce cross back for Broadhurst to drive towards goal.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: J. Wealands; D. Langan, M. Dennis, K. Dillon, J. Gallagher, C. Todd, A. Ainscow, A. Evans, F. Worthington, A. Gemmill, K. Broadhurst.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; G. Palmer, D. Parkin, W. Clarke, (N. Bell), J. McAlle, G. Berry, E. Hughes, W. Carr, A. Gray, J. Richards, M. Eves.

Referee: B. Martin (Keyworth, Notts).

Exhausted before they start

Tbilisi, Soviet Union, March 17.—West Ham United finally arrived in Tbilisi today after an exhausting 26-hour journey that cast a shadow over their already remote chances of Cup Winners' Cup success tomorrow.

West Ham's manager John Lyall and his squad of 16 were snowbound by howling blizzards at a Moscow airport overnight and flew into the Georgian capital 18 hours behind schedule. They further *complained of excessive red* tape at the Moscow airport and said they had to carry their own baggage for two hours before being taken to an hotel just after midnight.

Before taking the squad out for their pre-match training in Tbilisi tonight, Mr Lyall said: "We are mentally exhausted, absolutely exhausted. What do you expect after 26 hours of that?" West Ham are trailing 4—1 from the quarter-final first leg against Dinamo Tbilisi and will need to *pull off a sensational win if they* are to reach the last four.

Newport can take third division to dizzy heights

Newport County can become the first third division club to reach the semi-final round of a European competition at Somerton Park tonight. They hope to complete a shock result in the Cup Winners' Cup against Carl Zeiss Jena, of East Germany.

Tommy Tynan, with two goals, emerged as the hero a fortnight ago when Newport snatched a 2—2 draw, and that means they can drw 0—0 or 1—1 today and still reach the last four.

Jena have several injuries and two players suspended. Their manager, Hans Meyer, says: "*Newport are holding all the trumps.*" Len Ashurst, the Newport manager, warns that the home side will need all the application and commitment that characterized the first leg performance.

The only occasion a Welsh side reached the semi-final round was in 1967-68, when Cardiff City, of the second division, lost on aggregate to Hamburg.

Newport were threatened with bankruptcy only three years ago when Mr Ashurst joined them. Tonight, they expect a £25,000 profit, and will be hoping to add to the 10 European goals they have scored on their own pitch this *season, against Crusaders, of Ireland*, and Norwegians, Haugar.

One result will haunt Ipswich Town as they resume he European leg of their attempt to win three trophies: St. Etienne's 5—0 victory in Hamburg in an earlier round of the Uefa Cup. Even though the First Division leaders and FA Cup semi-finalists hold a three-goal advantage from the first leg in France, they cannot afford to sit back and try to defend it.

"That could prove suicidal", said John Wark, the new Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year. His ten European goals this season have helped Ipswich to the verge of the Uefa *Cup last four.*

Ipswich have reshuffled their defence to compensate for injury to George Burley and the temporary absence of Mick Mills with shoulder trouble.

Kevin Steggles makes his first team debut for Ipswich at right hack the day before his 20th birthday. He was due to make his debut last *November against* Middlesbrough, but the match was postponed. Another young Ipswich reserve, Kevin O'Callaghan, is on standby as cover for Eric Gates, the England midfield player, who has only a 50-50 chance of recovering from a gashed shin.

NEWPORT: Plumley; Walden, Davies, Oakes, Relish, Lowndes, Elsey, Vaughan, Tynan, Gwyther, Moore.
CARL ZEISS JENA (probable): Grapenthin; Brauer, Schilling, Kurbjuweit, Schnuphase, Overmann, Sengewald, Bielau, Raab, Vogel.
IPSWICH: Cooper, Steggles, McCall, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates or O'Callaghan. Substitutes: Endersby, Beattie, Parkin, D'Avray.
ST ETIENNE (probable): Castaneda; Battiston, Zanon, Gardon, Lopez, Janvion, Zimako, Larios, Rousset, Platini, Santini, Curkovic, Elie, Gallis, Oleksiak.
Referee: E. Linemayr (Austria).

Yesterday's results

First division

Birmingham (0) 1	Worthington	Wolves (0) 0	20,005
Norwich (2) 2	Royle (2)	Middlesbro (0) 0	14,317
Southmptn (1) 3	Keegan, Baker, Williams	Everton (0) 0	20,829

Second division

Swansea (0) 0	Bristol City (0) 0	10,832

Third division

Carlisle (?) 2	Robson (2)	Swindon (1) 1	Carter 3,[illegible]
Charlton (0) 0		Millwall (0) 0	12,700
Fulham (0) 0	5,587	Chester (1) 1	Phillips
Gillingham v Burnley—postponed			
Hull City (0) 0	5,586	Colchester (1) 1	Cotton
Plymouth (0) 0		Huddersfld (0) 0	5,453

Fourth division

Darlington (2) 4	Speedie, Hamilton, Cheetham, Walsh	Wimbledon (1) 1	Smith 2,071

Scottish second division

Albion Rvrs (3) 5 [redacted]
Ross (2), Burgess, Hill (pen), Francetti

FA TROPHY: Quarter final round: Sutton United 0, Aylesbury 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Wealdstone 1, Yeovil 1. Cup: semi-final round, first leg: Barrow 0, Kettering 2.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Corby 2, Alvechurch 1; Gloucester 2, Banbury 4; Trowbridge 1, Kidderminster 0. Southern division: Andover v Aylesbury—postponed.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Walthamstow Avenue v Croydon—postponed. First division: Billericay Town v Hertford Town—postponed; Kingstonian 2, Tilbury 0; Metropolitan Police 3, St Albans City 0; Hampton 1, Maidenhead United [illegible].
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Chalfont St Peter 1, Harefield United 3; Leyton-Wingate 3, Woodford 2.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Oldham 3, Widnes 21.
RUGBY UNION: Bristol 37, Clifton [illegible]; Exeter 13, Exeter University 4; Leicester v Loughborough Students—cancelled; Northampton v Sale—cancelled. Six Counties championship: Shropshire 3, Worcestershire and Herefordshire 12.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

EUROPEAN CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Banik Ostrava v Bayern Munich (5.30); CSKA Sofia v Liverpool (4.0); Red Star Belgrade v Internazionale Milan (1.30).
CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Dinamo Tbilisi v West Ham United (5.30); Benfica v Fortuna Düsseldorf (7.0); Feyenoord v Slavia Sofia (7.0); Newport County v Carl Zeiss Jena (7.15).
UEFA CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Sochaux v Grasshoppers, Zurich (7.0); Cologne v Standard Liege (7.0); Ipswich Town v Saint Etienne, Lokeren v AZ'67 Alkmaar (7.0).
FIRST DIVISION: Manchester United v Nottingham Forest (7.45); Stoke City v Manchester City.
THIRD DIVISION: Exeter City v Rotherham United.
FOURTH DIVISION: Peterborough United v Tranmere Rovers.
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Celtic v Partick Thistle; Rangers v Dundee United.
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Dundee v Dunfermline Athletic; Falkirk v Motherwell; Hibernian v St Johnstone.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Cowdenbeath v Clyde; Montrose v Meadowbank; Stenhousemuir v Brechin City.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Northwich Victoria v Scarborough.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Milton Keynes v Cheltenham. Southern: Addlestone and Weybridge v Crawley; Dunstable v Hastings.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: South Liverpool v Marine, Worksop v Witton Albion.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Loughborough v Sheffield (Nottingham University, 2.30).
SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: Royal Navy v Army (Victoria Stadium, Portsmouth, 2.30).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Corinthian FC v Arthurian League XI (at Fawkham, Kent).

Rugby Union

COUNTY MATCH: Lincolnshire v Derbyshire (Lincoln, 4.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Bridgwater and Albion v Avon and Somerset Police; Cross Keys v Newbridge (7.0); Gloucester v Cheltenham (7.0); Lydney v Maesteg; Pontypool v South Wales Police (7.0); Swansea v Ebbw Vale (7.0).

Rugby League

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Wales v England (Hull KR).

Hockey

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England v Poland (Crystal Palace, 7.0).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: London University v H. A. XI (Motspur Park, 2.30).

Rowing

Emanuel come from behind

By Jim Railton

Emanuel took their eleventh Schools Head of the River title yesterday in the thirty-fifth race on the Tideway. Emanuel, starting back in eleventh place, scythed through the field and their knowledge of their home waters paid dividends over more fancied rivals. The holders, *Shrewsbury*, took time to find their stride and their coxswain was a little unsure of the best tidal route home.

Shrewsbury and Emanuel were the two eights to catch the eye and Emanuel, rating high, came home by just four tenths of a second. The other co-favourites, St Edward's and Radley, finished third and fourth respectively. St Edward's found some compensation in taking three of the eights pennants.

Other schools to make giant strides to reach the top 20 were Shiplake, who jumped up from fifty-eighth to tenth position, and Radley C, who moved up 40 places. John Mason School, Abingdon, were clear winners over St Edward's to take the fours head in a time faster than 100 of the eights competing.

RESULTS: 1, Emanuel 7min 20.3sec; 2, Shrewsbury 7:20.7; 3, St Edward's, 7:22.7; 4, Radley 7:31.1; 5, Winchester 7:33.3; 6, Eton 7:33.4; 7, Pangbourne 7:34.8; 8, Hampton 7:35.4; 9, Tiffin 7:36.4; 10 equal, Shiplake, Bedford Modern 7:36.5; 12, St Paul's 7:36.8; 13, St Edward's B 7:36.9; 14, Bedford 7:37.6; 15, Eton B 7:40.2; 16, Shrewsbury B 7:40.4; 17, Radley C 7:40.8; 18, Westminster 7:42.2; 19, Emanuel C 7:42.7; 20, Bedford B 7:45.0.

PENNANTS: Eights: Open: Emanuel 7:20.3. Junior 16: St Edward's B 7:36.9. Junior 15: St Edward's C 7:49.5. Junior 15 restricted: St Edward's E 8:12.3. Junior 14: Winchester D 8:23.3. *Junior 14 restricted:* Pangbourne D 8:43.5. Small Club Pennant: Norwich 7:54.6. Fours: 1, John Mason 7:50.6; 2, St Edward's 8:1.9; 3, Belmont Abbey 8:5.8; 4, Strodes 8:12.0; 5, George Heriot's 8:15. Pennant Winners: Head: John Mason. Junior 16: Kingston GS 8:22.5. Open restricted: Shiplake 8:32. Junior 16 restricted: Stourport 8:40. Junior 15: Forest 8:55. Junior 15 restricted: Windsor B 8:52.

Modern pentathlon

British girls off to America

By Michael Coleman

Amazons they may be, but the gaggle of girls assembled by the Modern Pentathlon Association in the Fenchurch Street offices of the Norwich Union Insurance yesterday looked no more than that, sixth formers good for a laugh, though on their best behaviour. Four were wearing Stars and Stripes badges *in* their blazer lapels, for they head for San Antonio, Texas, today to take part in the Americans' alternative to the Moscow Olympics.

From the relaxed manner of Wendy Norman, aged 16, from Guildford, Janet Savage, 18, from Tewkesbury, Teresa Purton, 19, from Forest Hill, and Kathy Tayler, 21, from Reading, you would never guess what a battle the next nine days will be—not only with the Americans but also among themselves. What is at stake is selection for the British team to take part in the first women's world championships at *Crystal Palace from August 18 to* 22. Entries so far include the United States, France, West Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Canada, Austria and China.

The British have been pressing for some time for a world title to be set up, but it has landed in their laps as the nation's economy is nearly on its last legs and sponsors' purse strings are tightening. Norwich Union, who already sponsor show jumping and table tennis, have now come forward and are on the way to becoming pentathletes themselves.

The four going to San Antonio face exams in June and are thus unavailable for various other international events. Left behind are such notables as Sarah Parker, from Surrey, anxious about her 15-year-old horse Birkdale, who needs a daily bath because of a skin complaint, and Jeanne Challinor, from Andover, who is an Army corporal PTI and married.

Golf

Miss Wright the force behind top pairing

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

Two young Scots, Gillian Stewart and Pamela Wright, seized a two-stroke lead on the first day of the Avia Watches women's foursomes tournament over the Berkshire Golf Club's Blue course yesterday. They had an opening round of 75, two fewer than Angela Uzielli and Wilmer Aitken and three fewer than Pamela Benka and Shirley Sutton.

This is a fascinating starring cast. Miss Stewart, at 22, is a Curtis Cup player, Miss Wright the gifted 16-year-old daughter of a gifted mother, formerly Janette Robertson, Miss Aitken yet another promising young Scot, Mrs Uzielli a dedicated golfer masquerading as a joker, and Mrs Benka and Mrs Sutton two jokers masquerading, for part of yesterday, as serious golfers.

For all her youth Miss Wright was the motive force behind *yesterday's top pairing. She telephoned* her more illustrious partner to ask "if I'm not being too big headed" whether Miss Stewart could play with her this week. It was their first outing together and they dovetailed splendidly.

Miss Wright, according to her partner, "is a little star already", with her compact solid swing and tight short game. They dropped two shots to par going out and recovered two coming home as a result of superb seconds by Miss Wright, first with a five-iron and then a three.

The greens were all that could be expected so early in the season but they *still* yielded a rich harvest, particularly from Mrs Uzielli and her partner. Three times in the first four holes they needed three putts, on one occasion two from within a foot.

A bunker shot by Miss Aitken nestled within an inch or two of the ninth hole and thereafter they *played model par golf. They im*proved on that at the 16th, where a chip to 8ft by Mrs Uzielli and a good putt by Miss Aitken stole back a stroke. They were out in 41, five over par, and back in 36, one under.

Mrs Benka, once better known as Miss Tredinnick, played what she called a "weird" round with *Mrs Sutton*, once better known as Miss Ward, and still better known as Angela Bonnallack's sister. Their report was hilarious. They started 4, 7, 6 and finished 6, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5.

During the intervening holes they completely lost their form. Mrs Benka began to mishit her approach shot near the flag and Mrs Sutton began nervelessly to ram home the putts. In this way they had three successive birdies from the fourth, and at the next Mr Sutton so comprehensively fluffed a bunker shot that Mrs Benka's putt was little more than a formality in this contradictory mood.

LEADING SCORES: 75: Miss G. Stewart and Miss P. Wright; 77: Mrs A. Uzielli and Miss W. Aitken; 78: Mrs P. Benka and Mrs S. Sutton; 79: Mrs F. Thomas and Miss M. McKenna, Miss J. Walter and Miss C. Bailey; Miss V. Saunders and Miss C. Hourihane; 80: Mrs A. Bonnallack and Miss G. Bonallack; Mrs I. Robertson and Mrs W. Wooldridge; Miss J. Bald and Miss V. McAllister; Mrs J. Chapman and Miss C. McIntosh; 81: Mrs S. Burley and Mrs V. Morgan.



Photograph by Harry Kerr

Leading the way: Gillian Stewart playing an approach shot to the ninth green, watched by her partner, Pamela Wright.

Racing

Sea Pigeon acclaimed the horse for a kingdom

By Michael Seely

Sea Pigeon still reigns supreme at Cheltenham. No King coming home to claim his kingdom can ever have been cheered so loudly as was the Champion hurdler in the sunlit amphitheatre at Cheltenham yesterday.

"He's magic". John Francome, his jockey, said afterwards. There was more than a touch of magic in Francome's handling of Sea Pigeon. "I'm so sorry for Jonjo O'Neill". Francome said, but no man alive could have bettered the way in which he rode Sea Pigeon.

Meladon had made the running, closely attended by Pollardstown. The final pattern of the race took shape at the third flight from home as Pollardstown overtook his pacemaker and jumped to the front. Racing to the last hurdle there were four horses in line abreast. Pollardstown, Darling Run and the stable companions, Sea Pigeon and Starfen. Unbelievably, Francome still had Sea Pigeon on a tight rein to prevent this remarkable gelding from making his run too soon.

As they landed on the flat the Irish horse, Daring Run, took a narrow advantage. But Francome was sitting as still as a mouse on Sea Pigeon. Halfway up the run-in—and no sooner—the favourite was asked for his final effort.

Quickening as only a great horse can, Sea Pigeon produced an unanswerable burst of finishing speed to win by one and a half lengths. Pollardstown fought back like a tiger to take second place by a neck from Daring Run. Slaney Idol finished fourth. The most disappointing performance of the race was that of Beighlin, who was beaten a long way from home.

Pride was the chief emotion shown by all the principals afterwards. Pride was uppermost in Francome's face as he rode Sea Pigeon back in triumph to the unsaddling enclosure. Peter Easterby could hardly hide his feelings, though he managed to conceal them to an extent as he talked to the press.

"He's as good as ever. Sea Pigeon's work at home has been unbelievable. In his last gallop he left Starfen for dead. We're now on target for the Welsh and Scottish Champion hurdles. Then we'll try for a second Ebor. And we'll be back here for the treble next year."

Boastful words, you may think. But Easterby, a shrewd and humorous Yorkshireman, has long ago proved that actions speak louder than words. Sea Pigeon has now won 21 races under National Hunt rules, collecting a total of £130,394.60 in the process. He is the biggest prize money winner in the history of jumping, his total surpassing the previous records held by Night Nurse, Red Rum and Comedy of Errors. He also won £96,000 on the flat for Pat Muldoon, his owner.

The sporting nature of the winter game has never been better demonstrated than by the manner in which the connexions of Pollardstown accepted defeat. The faces of all four joint owners were on fire with excitement afterwards.

"That was a real race", Bill Tulloch said. "It was proper form and we weren't disgraced at all. I only wish that they still had to climb the hill past the stands. Then it would have been a thorough test of stamina." Stan Mellor said that Pollardstown would now try to repeat last year's victory in the Templegate hurdle at Liverpool.

It was a magnificent afternoon's racing in ever way. That exuberant Irishman, Mick O'Toole, started punters off on a high note when Niall Madden persuaded the 2-1 favourite, Hartsfield, to produce a fine turn of foot in the closing stages of the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices hurdle. O'Toole has now saddled a winner at each of the last seven festival meetings.

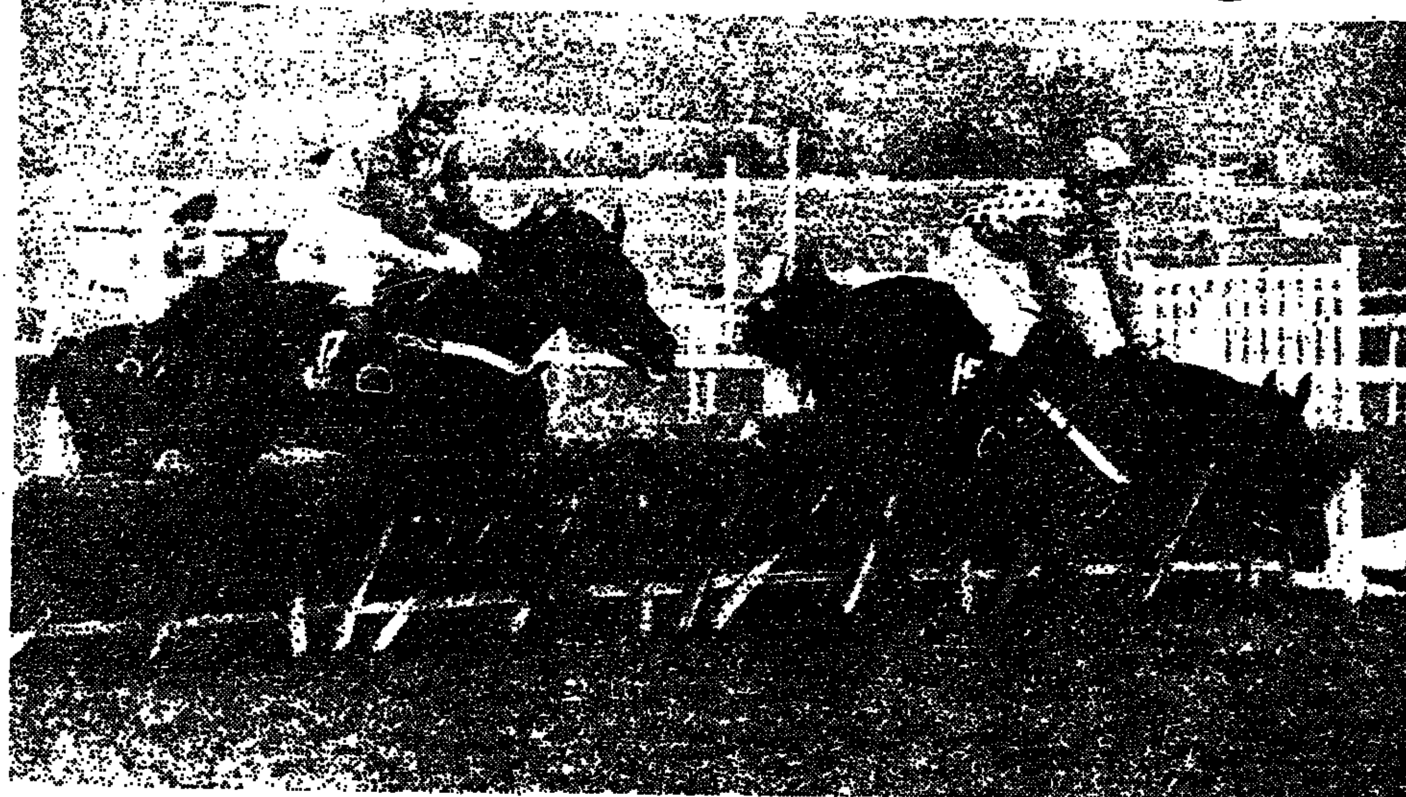
Easterby started the Yorkshire ball rolling when Clayside rallied to win the Arkle Challenge Trophy. A bad blunder at the fourth fence from home had virtually knocked Clayside out of contention. But he was back on terms at the next jump and had gone clear with the race in the bag as the field turned for home.

The third Yorkshire victory of the afternoon came when Waggoners Walk took advantage of the second last fence fall of Indecision to win the Kim Muir Challenge Cup by 34 lengths for Caroline Mason. The rest of the day belonged to Francome and Fred Winter.

That enigmatic character Derring Rose turned the Waterford Crystal into a procession, sprinting up the final hill to beat Celtic Isle by 30 lengths. "He's a bit of a character all right", Winter said. "but his homework has been much better lately and he only keeps us waiting for five or 10 minutes nowadays before he consents to go on the gallops instead of half an hour."

Winter had his second success of the afternoon and Francome his third when Friendly Alliance came home 15 lengths clear of Pine Brook in the Cheltenham Grand Annual Steeplechase. Francome, the man that hardened professionals are now acclaiming as the greatest jockey they have ever seen, is a 4-9 chance with Coral to win his third jockey's title.

With the ground at Cheltenham now officially described as soft with heavy patches, Ladbrokes have promoted Silver Buck to 5—1 joint favourite with Jack of Trumps for tomorrow's Tote Gold Cup. Other leading prices are: 6—1, Little Owl; 8—1, Night Nurse; and 9—1, Royal Bond.



Sea Pigeon (right) takes the final flight before winning the Champion Hurdle in a storming finish.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Sun Templegate Hurdle, Liverpool, Rathinree, Atlantic Bridge, Sheer Silk.

Much trouble afoot for Anaglogs Daughter

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Anaglogs Daughter, the brilliant Irish mare who ran away with the Arkle Chalenge Trophy a year ago and was widely considered to be one of the bankers of the week in the Queen Mother Champion Steeplechase at Cheltenham this afternoon, may not be able to take part.

Her name is among the declared runners, but she was lame on Monday evening after treading on a flint or a piece of glass while at exercise earlier in the day. She was still lame and discharging pus from that wound yesterday.

Her connexions have not abandoned hope of running her in the race which has been her principal target all season. They will have her shod this morning before making a final decision. If she does take part, missing only one day's exercise should not be enough to ruin her chance. But the scene around the unsaddling enclosure will be unbelievable, even by Irish standards, if Anaglogs Daughter manages to overcome her problems.

A year ago after this remarkable mare had easily won the Arkle Trophy, he only glimpse we had of her was her lovely head. A few minutes earlier, her rivals had seen only her tail as she darted from fence to fence, jumping superbly. Not surprisingly her victory was one of the most memorable of the meeting and, if she is none the worse for her setback, she should be very hard to catch again.

If she cannot run Stopped could take advantage of her absence, particularly as last year's easy winner, Chinrullah, has not shown himself to be in the same sort of form recently. Michael Dickinson and Fulke Walwyn, the trainers of Rathgorman and Dramatist, respectively, think otherwise.

Whether Anaglogs Daughter runs or not, the Irish are likely to have plenty to shout about earlier in the day as the Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle reaches its climax, because both Dunaree and Sean Ogue have run well enough in Ireland recently to suggest that they will attract a huge following. Dunaree won three races in a row before running so well for a comparative beginner against seasoned campaigners in the Erin Foods Champion Hurdle.

That performance marks him as the likely favourite, and with every justification, but I will give Easy Fella one more chance. The way his challenge at Newbury earlier this month petered out halfway up the straight indicated that either something was wrong with him physically or he did not stay three miles. As his trainer, Nicky Henderson, could find no fault with his health, he should be in his element again today racing over this shorter trip.

The Sun Alliance Steeplechase looks like a match between Easter Eel and Wayward Lad although the connexions of Captain John, Corbiere, Lesley Ann and Two Swallows will disagree. Having seen Easter Eel win all his races this season I have no intention of deserting him even though Michael Dickinson is full of confidence in Wayward Lad's ability to cause an upset.

Easter Eel has jumped around Cheltenham successfully once already this season, whereas Wayward Lad has not, and he has beaten a horse of the class of Dramatist. In addition, he will be ridden by John Francome, who is a master in the art of nursing a horse through a test as severe as this.

No matter how Wayward Lad fares, Dickinson should leave the course with at least one bite of the cherry or perhaps two, because even one so smart as Henry Kissinger will find the task of giving 19lb to his runner, Political Pop, too great in the Mildmay of Flete Challenge Cup.

Political Pop is a good jumper for a novice and, with only 10st on his back, a danger surely to all. Half an hour earlier his stable companion, Compton Lad, should be capable of staying four miles in the National Hunt Steeplechase better than most of his opponents as he is by an Ascot Gold Cup winner, Precipice Wood, and out of Snowdra Queen, who was herself a good hunter chaser.

The Coral Golden Hurdle final I am content to leave to Willie Wumpkins and Jim Wilson for the third time in as many years. Willie Wumpkins is not blessed with the best of feet, which is why he must have heavy ground to be seen at his best. And that is what he will get this afternoon even after another drying day yesterday.

STATE OF GOING (official): Stockton: Abandoned, waterlogged. Cheltenham: Soft, heavy patches. Tomorrow: Hexham: Heavy. Cheltenham: Soft, heavy patches.

Silent Valley misses the Gold Cup

Silent Valley, the intended partner of Peter Scudamore in tomorrow's Cheltenham Gold Cup, has cracked his off-fore cannon bone, and the eight-year-old Northumbrian-based gelding's future is in the balance.

The accident happened when Silent Valley had his final workout on Monday on the gallops at Westerhope, near Newcastle. His trainer, Ian Jordan, said: "The horse pulled up sound but walked away feelingly, so we had him examined by a portable X-ray. He was immediately sent up to the Edinburgh Veterinary College, where further X-rays confirmed the damage to his off-fore leg.

"He is having an operation in which he will have screws or pins inserted into the leg, and we will have to wait and see whether he can race again. It's a tragedy", Jordon added.

Cheltenham results

2.15 (2.17) WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME HURDLE (Novices: £14,025: 2m)

HARTSTOWN, b g, by Rarity—Miss Janet (Mrs J. McGowan), 6-11-8 .. N. Madden (2-1 fav) 1
Fifty Dollars More, b g, by Deep Run—Shanestown (Sheikh Ali Khamsin), 6-11-8 J. Francome (7-1) 2
The Tsarevich, b h, by Mummy's Pet—Madame Russe (Mrs C. Henly), 5-11-8 S. Smith Eccles (10-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-4 Another Story, 10-1 Pay Related, 30-1 Sailor's Return, 22-1 Eddie Wee, Path of Peace, 33-1 Knighthood (4th), 66-1 Beggar's Bridge (f), Blue Patrol, Fra Mau, Klive, Prince Bal, Roadstar, State Councellor. 16 ran.

...

14-1 Port Belvedere (4th), 16-1 Duc's Delight, 25-1 Foxbury (p), 33-1 Castlehaven, Woodford Prince (f), 100-1 C'Est Afrique (p), Irish Gantlet (f), Kandos (p). 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 18p, 26p, 39p. Dual F: £1.70. CSF: £4.08. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 30l, 4l.

4.40 KIM MUIR CHASE (Handicap: £6,403: 3m)

WAGGONERS WALK, b g by Kadir Cup—dam unregistered (G. Mason) 12-10-3 Mr C. Cundall (7-1) 1
Hard Outlook, ch g by Harwell—Princess Prospect (Lady Wales) 10-10-12 Mr P. Webber (14-1) 2
Grand Cru, br g by French Vine—dam unregistered (Mrs R. Graham) 11-10-13 Mr F. Codd (15-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 fav Talon (f), 7-1 Shady Deal (p), Kilkilwell, 8-1 Another Prospect (p), 9-1 Lochage, 12-1 Pongey Boy (4th), Indecision (f), 16-1 Joint Venture, 25-1 Good Prospect (u), Martinstown, Lustful Lady (f), 33-1 Cedor's Daughter, Choral Festival, Midday Welcome, 50-1 Doar Mount, Roi de Frontiere, Alpenstock (p). 20 ran.
TOTE: Win, 52p; places, 16p, 55p, 19p, 33p. Dual F: £7.05. CSF: £11.20. Miss C. Mason, at Malton. 30l, nk.
Mr Samley Pepys.

5.15 (5.17) CHELTENHAM GRAND ANNUAL CHASE (Handicap: £6,694: 2m)

FRIENDLY ALLIANCE, b g by Dear Gazelle—Babu Saar (J. Mulhern) 8-10-7 J. Francome (11-2) 1
Pine Brook, gr or ro g by Birdbrook-Langford Damsels (Mrs D. Hues) 7-10-0 bl P. Barton (8-1) 2
Casbah, ar g by Eastern Lyric—Glitter Girl (Ld Leverhulme) 14-10-0 car 10-5 H. Davies (16-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Gambling ...

Cheltenham programme

[Television (BBC 2): 2.15, 2.50, 3.30 and 4.5 races]

2.15 SUN ALLIANCE HURDLE (Novices: £14,168: 2½m)

102 210034 Dec's Delight (Mrs R. Downey), M. Cunningham, 7-11-8 —
105 11333 Dunaree (C. Cronin), A. Redmond, 6-11-8 ...... T. Quinn
106 2114 Easy Fella (C.D) (David Gobbell Building Ltd), N. Henderson, 7-11-8 S. Smith Eccles

...

5.15 MILDMAY OF FLETE CHALLENGE CUP CHASE (Handicap: £6,897: 2½m)

602 4fp120 Carrow Boy (D) (W. Durkan), Durkan, 9-11-10 G. Newman
603 1f1142 Henry Kissinger (D) (J. Mansworth), D. Gandolfo, 7-11-5 P. Barton
604 3121f4 Bueche Giorod (CD) (Mrs G. Bielby), Mrs J. Pitman 10-11-4 B. Smart
606 23211 Kenils (D) (Mrs M. Haggas), M. Dickinson 10-10-6 T. Carmody
607 11f0-00 Govenor's Last (R. Barton), Barton 9-10-6 ...... G. McCourt
609 41f22f Collars and Cuffs (B) (Brig C. Harvey), D. Nicholson 7-10-1 P. Scudamore
610 11fu11 Political Pop (D) (Mrs A. Starkie), M. Dickinson, 7-10-0 R. Earnshaw
611 122002 The Baker (D) (Mrs R. Wiseman), F. Yardley, 11-10-0 W. Morris 3
613 121130 Tower Bridge (M. Small), G. Small, 10-10-0 ...... P. Hobbs
614 0f0ppp Avoncore (B. Johnson), F. Yardley, 9-10-0 .... C. Tinkler
617 122320 Will Boreen (A. Durkan), W. Durkan, 7-10-0 M. Mulligan 7
618 0/000r4 Mac (Mrs S. Mackenzie), C. Mackenzie, 9-10-0 G. Kennard 7

7-2 Carrow Boy, 4-1 Bueche Giorod, 5-1 Henry Kissinger, 8-1 Political Pop, 10-1 Kenils, 12-1 Collars and Cuffs, Will Boreen, 16-1 Govenor's Last, 20-1 The Baker, Tower Bridge, 25-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Cheltenham selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

2.15 Easy Fella. 2.50 Anaglogs Daughter (if absent, Stopped). 3.30 Willie Wumpkins. 4.5 EASTER EEL is specially recommended. 4.40 Compton Lad. 5.15 Political Pop.

Sedgefield

...

TOTE: Win, 25p; places, 28p, 86p. Dual F: £1.20. CSF: 95p. Mrs P. Shields at Gravke near York. 7l, 10l. Master Marmaduke (11-1) 4th. 6 ran.

3.40 (3.46) RAMSIDE CHASE (Handicap: £1,193: 2½m)

TWOPENNY BLUE, b g by Rioi—Blue Ballet (Lady McAndrew) ...

Mystic Match .. M. Barnes (11-2) 2
Merry Misses D. McCaskill (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 20p; places, 11p, 18p; dual forecast, 33p. CSF: 82p. R. Fisher at Ulverston. 1l, 1½l. King Tud (12-1) 4th. 11 ran.

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Boxing

Minter rewrites his own story against tough Philadelphian

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Alan Minter, Britain's former world middleweight champion, can breathe a little easier now. Some of the heaviness that was pressing down on his chest after his humiliating defeat at the hands of Marvin Hagler was lifted last night when he returned to Wembley Arena, the scene of his calamitous world title defence last September, and beat Bernie Singletary, a tough Philadelphian, by the length of a street. The referee measured it 100 points to 95½.

From th third round Minter took charge, and he and his followers marched down the street to chants of "Minter, Minter"; but everything is still not right with his world, though it is no more like the end of the world it was. With a couple more outings like this he should be able to face it and Hagler with that fierce determination of his.

Minter looked a bit subdued and cold at the start and as Singletary worked to the body and switched to the head in the first two rounds, Minter was in trouble twice as stunning rights to the jaw shifted his gumshield. With Singletary hurting Minter to the head there were moments when it looked that he would suffer another disastrous defeat; but Singletary was not able to land those blows often enough to the top of the head—for he is essentially a body puncher—to test Minter's eyes.

So the question mark still remains. Minter wanted to look away from the punches in the first two rounds as the Philadelphian threw them from both sides of the Briton's head. Obviously Minter was afraid of his eyes giving out in the early rounds but in the third, when he stood his ground and threw those lefts and rights straight from the shoulder, Singletary's knees sagged and he knew he had been hit.

Whereas Singletary had done the stalking up to the third, there was a dramatic switch-round and from then on it was Minter who was dancing and jabbing. In the fourth he opened up with pinpoint accuracy with both hands that broke the American's resolve. Singletary's blows, which had earlier had a whiplash quality, now started to fly ponderously through the air and Minter had no difficulty picking him off.

Singletary was a ready made target for him as he came in with his head forward, looking for openings. It seemed all over for the American by the fourth as Minter crashed through what little defence he could offer but, to his credit, he weathered the assault when the chants of the crowd to finish him off were the loudest.

Minter punished Singletary severely in the fifth and sixth, but then, as the American still refused to go down, Minter decided to make an evening of it and coast through. He hit him with some combinations, which against a fitter man he would not have had a chance to try.

John L. Gardner, Britain's European heavyweight champion, gained the strangest victory of his career when he knocked out Osvaldo "Jaws" Ocasio, of Puerto Rico, in 19 seconds of the sixth round. Gardenr had struggled through five painful rounds, taking merciless punishment from the 8lb heavier Puerto Rican and it seemed it would not be long before Ocasio would catch him with the left hook and put him away. By the fifth round, however, Ocasio's five-month layoff was beginning to tell; when the bell went for the sixth he was a long time getting off his stool, and Harry Gibbs came up to him and asked him to get out of his corner.

Ocasio stood up. Gardner walked up to him and tapped him on the chin with a punch that would not even have knocked out a fly, let alone a flyweight. "Jaws", who now began to show a set of toothless paws, just rolled over on his back; no one was more surprised than Gardner at his luck. Ocasio got up on one knee as Mr Gibbs began to finish his count.

The Puerto Rican had boxed loosely from a distance at the start and had caught Gardner over and over again with left hooks that shook him down to his boots. For the first two rounds Gardner was caught by the right feint as the left whipped in.

By the third round Ocasio was beginning to show signs of losing interest in the bout. He bulled his way forward, using his arms like horns, to pin Gardner against the ropes much to the crowd's annoyance. Gardner's best rounds were the fourth and fifth as Ocasio backpedalled on to the ropes, throwing an occasional right hand to deter him; but Gardner would not be slowed down and he persevered, pressuring his opponent all the time.

Then the end came in the sixth. It was as much a relief to Gardner as to the man who was unable to get up. By this performance I do not think Gardner will get himself into the top ten ratings, but if he somehow does, and meets the world champion, I do not hold out much hope for him beyond cashing in on a large pay-off.

South African guests: Four Argentine boxers arrived by air in Johannesburg yesterday to prepare for a programme on March 28, that will include a flyweight title bout between Santos Laciar and the black South African champion, Peter Mathebula, AP reports.

Rugby League

Carlisle set to follow Fulham's example

By Keith Macklin

Three officials of the Rugby League will watch a football match at Carlisle on Saturday and the sequel could be the entry of Carlisle United into the second division of the Rugby League next season. Directors of the club decided at a meeting on Monday to invite senior officials of the 13-a-side game to Brunton Park to examine the ground and facilities. If Rugby League officials are happy with what they see, Carlisle board members will almost certainly apply to join the League in time for the opening of next season in September.

The Cumbrian club are not yet totally committed to an application, though as David Howes, the Rugby League's public relations officer, said: "The indications are good". A deputation from Carlisle will go to Fulham for Sunday's match with Dewsbury and the Craven Cottage ground will be closely inspected to see the effects, if any, of the double dose of wear and tear from football and Rugby League.

Carlisle have already asked George Graham, the former Workington Town chairman, to act as consultant; the role which Harold Genders performed so successfully in the recruitment of the Fulham side.

Mr Howes said: "Apart from Carlisle, there is a possible application from Charlton Athletic in the pipeline. Other clubs who earlier expressed an interest, like Bolton Wanderers, Notts County, Reading and Crystal Palace, are holding back for another season for a variety of reasons. Some clubs have been affected by the economic climate, some have been put off by our request for a long-term commitment and some want to give the Fulham experiment another year's examination."

Cardiff City are one club who are pursuing their interest. Ron Jones, their general manager, will have discussions with League officials next month.

Tonight at Craven Park, Hull, England meet Wales to decide who wins the wooden spoon in the European championship, which was won by France at Headingley last month.

Unless there is a major upset in form, the sackcloth and ashes will again adorn Wales, who rarely seem to put together as a team the sum of their individual parts. On the England side, the injured scrum-half Paul Harkin is replaced by Steve Nash, a skilled international veteran who might have thought his international career was over. The skill and experience of Nash will be a vital factor for England.

Steve Rule, the Salford full-back, gets his first Welsh cap and Martin Herdman, the Fulham forward who has made a spectacular rise in the game, is a substitute. Both qualify through Welsh ancestry rather than through Welsh nationality, and Herdman's appearance in a Welsh party is something of a fairytale. Less than three months ago he was playing amateur Rugby League with Peckham and was told by the Fulham player-coach, Reg Bowden, "to get a little more experience". He first appeared in the Fulham team only a matter of weeks ago and has since made remarkable strides.

John Bevan will captain the Welsh side. Paul Prendiville, the Hull winger, would have been included in the party but for an injury he sustained at Barrow on Sunday.

WALES: S. Rule (Salford); A. Cambriani (Fulham), G. Walters (Hull), J. Bevan (Warrington), B. Juliff (Wakefield Trinity); D. Wilson (Swinton), P. Woods (Hull), M. James (St Helens), D. Parry (Blackpool Borough), C. Dixon (Hull Kingston Rovers), G. Owen (Oldham), T. Skerrett (Hull), R. Mathias (St Helens). Substitutes: C. Griffiths (St Helens), M. Herdman (Fulham).

Cricket and chips

Computer-controlled scoreboards are to be installed on the Headingley cricket and Rugby League grounds at a total cost of £80,000. The cricket scoreboard, which will be built facing the pavilion, will be in operation for the first time during the third Test match against Australia in July.

Rackets

Ellis demolishes Maltby to topple Cambridge

By Roy McKelvie

Oxford, having won the doubles match on Monday, shared the singles yesterday to beat Cambridge by 2—1 in the University match at Queen's Club. Richard Ellis, (Haileybury and St Edmund Hall), the Oxford second string, demolished William Maltby (Wellington and Magdalene) by 15—2, 15—3, 15—5, a swingeing victory. Then the Cambridge first strong, Andrew McDonald (Malvern and St John's), beat William Hollington (Haileybury and St Edmund Hall) by 12—15, 15—9, 15—0, 15—10.

Ellis was in a class of his own and would probably have dealt as severely with McDonald as he did with Maltby. McDonald and Hollington, however, were well matched, the winner being the more mobile and more consistent and a better returner of service.

Given time, Hollington had the heavier shots but he had difficulty in judging the ball off the side and back walls, a fact that McDonald, after losing the first game from 11—2, used to his benefit. The match began to turn his way in the middle of the second game.

McDonald won the third game to love in one hand. Hollington, his head bowed and shoulders hunched, ambling from side to side as if he had forgotten where he was. He made a sterner effort in the fourth game, putting some weight into his strokes and producing occasional service winners. Hollington led 10—7, but McDonald, whose improvement through the match was noticeable, finished him off in one hand.

Hockey

History on England's side

By Sydney Friskin

International hockey comes back to Crystal Palace today and tomorrow when England entertain Poland on the Astroturf pitch. Today's match starts at 7 pm and the bully-off tomorrow is at 2.30. The traditional bully, however, is on its way out. From September 1 this year, it is to be replaced by a pass back.

Poland have never beaten England. Of the four matches played so far, dating back to 1959, England have won three and one has been drawn. They met twice in 1978: in Buenos Aires, where England won 3—0, and in Hanover, where England won 2—0.

The visitors, who, like England, have qualified for the World Cup event in Bombay at the end of this year, lost 4—3 to Ireland in Dublin last Saturday and will play Wales at Cardiff on Sunday. Both Wales and Ireland will soon be on their way to Kuala Lumpur for the Inter-Continental Cup, which starts on March 29.

The Hockey Association have included Blackett, of Oxford University, in their party of 12 for the annual match against London University at Motspur Park today, starting at 2.30. Blackett has two more years at Oxford but under a system of cadetship he holds the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Army.

HA XI (from): J. A. Lee (Hampton-in-Arden), V. Hales (Bromley), G. Daubeney (Richmond), M. M. Spray (Southgate), I. K. Driver (Southgate), D. A. Faulkner (Havant), N. Cubbage (Hampton-in-Arden), I. Sherwani (North Staffordshire), N. Barry (Beckenham), H. Blackett (Oxford University), S. Batchelor (Southgate), E. Hyde (Taunton Vale).

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	100	360	Good	Powder	Fair	Snow	-3
South slopes icy							
Flaine	120	510	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
New snow on hard base							
Grindelwald	45	170	Good	Varied	Fair	Snow	4
New snow on hard base							
Isola 2000	30	60	—	—	—	—	—
14 runs and 11 skilifts opened							
Kitzbühel	40	160	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Rain	3
Slush on lower slopes							
La Plagne	155	250	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-4
New snow on firm base							
Les Arcs	100	220	Fair	Varied	Fair	Cloud	-2
Icy patches on lower slopes							
St Anton	100	470	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
High runs, good powder							
Tignes	125	235	Icy	Varied	Icy	Snow	-1
Good skiing on higher slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	—	—	—	—	—
Garmisch	30	70	Snow	—	-3
Hindelang	50	100	Old	—	-1
Kleinwalsertal	100	280	Pwdr	—	1
Mittenwald	30	170	Pwdr	—	-8
Oberammergau	35	80	Pwdr	—	0
Oberjoch	—	—	—	—	—
Oberstaufen	40	40	Pwdr	—	-2
Oberstdorf	60	160	Pwdr	—	-3

For the record

Tennis

ROTTERDAM: World Championship Tennis tournament: first round (US unless stated): T. Waltke beat E. Edwards 6—2, 4—6, 7—5; T. Smid (Czechoslovakia) beat K. Johansson (Sweden) 6—7, 6—4, 6—1; W. Scanlon beat A. Gomez (Ecuador) 6—3, 6—0; V. Amritraj (India) beat J. Norback (Sweden) 6—2, 6—2; E. Wilborts (Netherlands) beat P. Dupre 3—6, 6—1, 6—4; Y. Noah (France) beat P. Rennert 5—7, 6—1, 6—1; W. Fibak (Poland) beat C. Kirmayr (Brazil) 6—1, 4—6, 6—0; Tim Gullikson beat K. Warwick (Australia) ...

Golf

LEADING EARNINGS: US tour (men): 1, J. Miller, $131,975; 2, B. Lietzke, $129,532; 3, R. Floyd, $94,915; 4, A. Bean, $90,360; 5, T. Kite, $90,061; 6, H. Irwin, $85,389; 7, D. Graham (Australia), $76,275; 8, L. Hinkle, $70,873; 9, J. Pate, $61,418; 10, T. Watson, $65,865.

LEADING EARNINGS: US women's tour: 1, J. Carner, $50,482; 2, S. Little (SA), $46,424; 3, A. Alcott, $40,075; 4, N. Lopez-Melton, $34,387; 5, S. Palmer, $31,115; 6, P. Hayes, $30,344; 7, K. Whitworth, $27,946; 8, P. Bradley, $23,970; 9, H. Stacy, $20,109; 10, S. Post, $15,996. British placing: 59, J. L. Smith, $3,685.

Bowls

ARDROSSAN: Women's internationals: England beat Ireland 149-95. (England skips first): Mrs C. Webster 31, Mrs E. Bell 17; Mrs N. Shaw 33, Mrs E. Hamilton 4; Mrs T. Barton 22, Mrs D. Fraser 13; Mrs E. Logan 15, Mrs N. Gibson 26; Miss M. Steele 30, Mrs E. Cameron 21; Mrs I. Molyneux 15, Mrs M. Ross 15. Wales beat Scotland 127—124 (Wales skips first): E. Morgan 15, J. Flame 22; I. Radford 17, C. McPartland 29; L. Nicholas 24, I. Bockrell 16; E. Thomas 39, P. Stirling 13; M. Jones 22, M. Ross 21; M. Pomeroy 10, F. Whyte 24.

Badminton

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Cycling

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Curling

...

Ice hockey

...

Are the criminals getting on top?

The Government has a firm law and order policy, more police are being recruited but still the unsolved crime figures rise...

The low percentage of crime cleared up by the Metropolitan Police and an attack on the efficiency of the South Yorkshire Force by the chairman of its Police Authority are indications that the Government's law and order strategy is failing.

Mr George Moores, the Authority chairman, said: "We are not getting value for money. It seems that for the increasing sums of money we pour into the service each year, there is a progressive reduction in detection rates."

The South Yorkshire police budget was £22m in 1977 and £42m this year. Though *Police, the Police Federation journal*, claims that South Yorkshire's detection rate is the highest of all Metropolitan forces in the country, it fell from 51.7 per cent in 1979, to 46.7 per cent last year.

While part of the fall is reckoned to be because of Home Office changes in the compiling of statistics, the Home Office denies there has been any alteration of the formula for crime counted as "cleared up".

The most disturbing fact about the official figures presented by the Metropolitan *Police in London is that, while* numbers of police have increased, the percentage of crimes *cleared up and* the actual number of arrests are lower than they were. Yet the *recruiting of extra police is so* important a part of the Government's strategy that it is being given extra protection in its projected expenditure, while cuts outside the area of law and order are in some cases savage.

The Government's White Paper on *Public Expenditure* forecasts growth in police strength in England and Wales from 116,900 officers on March 31 to 119,000 in 1983-84. "If the forecast for any year is exceeded," the White Paper says, "further provision will be made both for the cost of additional manpower within *individual establishments and for* the associated expenditure on equipment, training and other support services".

Merely recruiting more officers is not enough. Police in some places are involving themselves more with the community, acknowledging the extent to which they depend on *the public's support.*

Far from Government being able to reduce serious crime, the official figures suggest that in some parts of the country the police are in danger of being overwhelmed. The 1980 figure of crimes recorded, which will go into the annual report of Mr James Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, when it is published later this year, will show increases in the last two years of 5.2 per cent and 4.6 per cent.

The police regard the kind of crime that has most sharply increased as virtually unpreventable and not easily detectable. Burglary in dwellings in Greater Manchester increased by *almost 24 per cent* in 1980 and in other premises by more than 16 per cent. Robberies and assaults with intent to rob rose by 31 per cent and arson and criminal damage by 28 per cent.

METROPOLITAN POLICE

	Arrests	Force strength
1977	110,354	22,239
1978	108,167	22,202
1979	105,470	22,786
1980	105,017	23,691

Some part of the extra criminal damage recorded may be due to inflation, as it is not *included if less than £20 in* value. But the police regard as "exceedingly worrying" the phenomenal rise in arson in Greater Manchester from 287 recorded cases in 1977 costing £756,198 to 415 in 1980 costing £9,222,621.

Under such shocks, Greater Manchester's clear-up rate dropped from 50.5 per cent in 1975 to 41.3 per cent last year. The clear-up rate for the Metropolitan Police in London has fallen during the past 10 years from 28 per cent in 1971 to 20 per cent last year and the year before.

The Metropolitan police cleared up only one in nine burglaries last year, which now account for a fifth of all their reported serious crime. Burglaries have *risen* from 77,667 *in* 1971 (46,024 of them residential) to 125,806 (75,086 residential) last year.

In Manchester, the number (as opposed to the percentage) of crimes actually detected has increased between 1975 and 1980 by 7.8 per cent, but in London the *number* of crimes cleared up has actually fallen from a high point of 119,817 in 1977 to 116,892 in 1980. Arrests fell by more than 5,000 over the *same period.* Yet since 1977, the strength of the Force has risen by 1,452.

The cost of crime and dealing with it, is already enormous. A detailed analysis by *The Times* in 1975 estimated it to be £2,000m. Since January 1975 prices have risen overall by 131 per cent. The question is, what sort of investment by the Government in fighting crime would really be worthwhile. At present, it can have no real idea. The official measurements of crime are more than useless; they are misleading.

Even assuming it was true that recruiting extra police would automatically lead to a corresponding improvement of clear-up rates, the effect could be disastrous for the potentially explosive prison system, unless courts could be persuaded or forced (by legislation) to *reduce numbers given custodial* sentences and the length of sentences imposed. Prisons have to take the numbers they are sent. Catching extra criminals, desirable though that is in itself, is the equivalent of producing unwanted cars which have then to be left to rust in store. In the case of offenders *they are warehoused in* prisons.

Because research suggests there is about 10 times as much crime as is actually recorded by the police, it could be that more of some sorts of *crime* is ending up in the statistics as a result of there being more officers to hear about it.

But if there are 10 times as many crimes as are officially recorded that makes the clear-up rates look even sicker. The 20 per cent cleared up by the Metropolitan Police would fall to a mere two per cent and Greater Manchester's figure to four per cent.

Of course, it is unfair to criticize the police for failing to solve crimes not reported to them, but evidence is accumulating showing how much they actually do depend on the public. Faith in detective work as *a prime means of solving crime is one of the casualties of recent research.*

In *The Effectiveness of Policing* (published by Gower) which they edit, R. V. G. Clarke and J. M. Hough, of the Home Office Research Unit, say that studies emphasize that most detections are of a routine nature and that detectives are heavily dependent both on information readily available at the scene of the crime and on admissions by offenders already charged with other offences. "Only a small proportion of crimes are detected by procedures typically thought to comprise 'real detective work'—that is the sifting of forensic evidence, the methodological elimination of suspects and the use of *informants*."

> **'Catching extra criminals' desirable though that is in itself, is the equivalent of producing unwanted cars which have then to be left to rust in store. In the case of offenders they are warehoused in prisons'**

How few crimes are cleared up by detective work is confirmed in a book by Keith Bottomley and Clive Coleman of Hull University to be published soon by Gower (*Understanding Crime Rates*). Of 1,020 cleared-up crimes they examined, 28 per cent were admitted, under *questioning. They reflect the* efforts of police to induce known offenders to clear up other crimes. Another 24 per cent were cleared up as a result of the public (mainly victims) giving information which led to identification of offenders; four per cent were detained by a citizen and 10 per cent by special agents (almost entirely store detectives).

David Steer, a tutor at the Police College, Bramshill, Hampshire, found in another study for the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure that threequarters of suspects were caught carrying out the crime, were still at the scene when the police arrived, were known *from the outset or were among* a small number of people who had the opportunity to commit the crime.

Until criminal statistics actually give police the information that can enable them to focus their efforts more productively, it is useless for governments to expect money poured into fighting crime to achieve results *that will impress* the electorate. Law and order, for all the good intentions of campaigning politicians at election times, will have only bogus appeal.

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Uncovering Crime, the Police Role. *Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. Research Study No 7 (Stationery Office).* Understanding Crime Rates by *Keith Bottomley and Clive Coleman (Gower).* The Effectiveness of Policing *edited by R. V. G. Clarke and J. M. Hough (Gower).*

Bernard Levin

The nicest bandwagon you ever saw

Here's a frightfully good wheeze, reported by Elgy Gillespie in *The Sunday Times*. The Irish Prime Minister, Mr Charles Haughey (the Harold *Wilson of the Celtic Twilight*), has announced that 150 "creative artists" (the term embraces playwrights, novelists, sculptors, painters, composers, screenprinters, photographers, bards and poets) are to be put on the state payroll at 4,000 jimmy-o'goblins a year each. The jimmy-o'goblins in question are Irish ones, it is true (and should therefore perhaps more appropriately be called jimmy-o'leprechauns), and the punt is at present at a discount; all the same, considering that the recipients don't actually have to do anything at all for the money, it should not be sneezed at, and I don't suppose will be. The first 150 free-loaders, incidentally, are to be selected by the Irish Arts Council, but after that they will select themselves. (I bet they will. Literally, I should think.)

There is a good deal to be said about this caper, and in a moment I shall say it. First, however, I have to ask a question, and it is the only question that will be asked by anybody in Ireland or elsewhere who can, by any effort of the imagination, persuade himself that he is, or can give a decent imitation of, a creative artist: please, Sir, where do I apply to get my bread in the gravy?

For you must not suppose that you have to be Irish of the Irish to qualify for this lovely shamrock-coloured lolly. *When it comes to giving other people's* money to con-men the Irish Government is plainly as warm-hearted as Lambeth Council itself; foreign chancers already living off the fat of the land in the Republic under the scheme that allows "creative artists" to escape taxation there (a scheme presumably instituted because it was felt that such folk might add a bit of tone to the place) can leap aboard the bandwagon, as can those born in Ireland and living abroad, never mind all those of Irish descent who can bear to visit the old sod long enough to pick up their winnings; indeed, I *have a distinct feeling that anybody* who isn't so colour-blind that he can't tell the difference between green and orange at ten paces has only to stand with his mouth under the tap and Mr Haughey will do the rest.

Well, my own order of priorities is clear: first me, then you. I have often reminded the *world that* my grandfather was one of the O'Levins of Co Kildare, and there can be few in a position to deny it authoritatively; that I am a creative artist none, I imagine, will be inclined to dispute, at any rate after my forthcoming *Life of Lord Goodman* (Swepstone, Walsh and Sons, £12.50, illus, pp 688) appears. Certainly, my claim is as good as that of any of the drunks, joxers, layabouts, schnorrers, fiddlers, thimble-riggers, touchers—and other members of the fancy who will shortly be jostling to join the queue. (In the immortal words of Brendan Behan, there were good men in Mountjoy before Kevin Barry got into the act.)

So far, the only sensible remark made about the business has come from Mr Hugh Leonard, the Irish playwright, who has said that "asking the Arts Council to choose the members is like asking Nero to organize an outing for Christians". But we cannot leave it there. It can be said with very *considerable assurance* that from the moment the first of the 150 paid hacks are signed up and nip round the corner to turn a bit of it into liquid assets by courtesy of the good Messrs Jameson, there will not be a single word or note written, not a fragment of marble chipped or a square inch of canvas dabbed with paint, that will be of any artistic value or significance to any human being alive or as yet unborn. And it can be said with absolute certainty that if, by some extraordinary chance, a true work of creation should slip through into existence, it would have done so even if it had never occurred to Mr Haughey that getting himself known as a great one for the finer things of life could do him no electoral harm.

The delusion that art can be produced by money, or *by* anything at all for that matter, is one of the most persistent and deeply rooted of our time, which is the more remarkable in view of the fact that it is of such recent origin. It betrays, of course, a fundamental misunderstanding of what art is, which is not surprising, because nobody can say what art is. But at any rate it is possible to say what it is not.

It is not something that can be made out of anything external to the artist, except in the obvious sense that sights and sounds and experiences are external to the artist and provide *much of the raw* material which, when (and only when) it has been transmuted in the alembic of the artist's psyche, turns into art.

The late John Culshaw, in *Ring Resounding*, his book about the first complete recording of the *Ring*, by Decca, tells of the review of the mighty project, in a magazine which though it saluted Decca's remarkable technical achievement, bemoaned the fact that it had been applied to a foreign composition. Was there no equivalent English work? If not, could not one have been commissioned? No, one could not have been commissioned, and the *reason has nothing to do with the* quality of Wagner's music. Only *artists can produce* art; art can be produced only by artists. In that pair of tautologies lies the whole truth about the whole business of paying creators to create, which is that it is a waste of time and money to do any such thing. If there is art inside a man, it will come out; if there is none, no fishing-line, though the hook be baited with good red gold, will be long enough, or strong enough, to drag it forth.

This is not at all the same thing as the *belief* that hunger is good for creation. (Hunger isn't good for *anything* except over-eating, and let us never *forget that.)* Itself a *product* of an effete romanticism, the belief insists that the proper place for an artist is in an unheated garret, his function to produce masterpieces by guttering candlelight. Well, Mozart did. Beethoven didn't; Milton didn't, Chatterton did; Ibsen *first did, then didn't*; Rembrandt first didn't, then did. Neither poverty nor affluence can either produce or inhibit art; both are irrelevant to it. Indeed, I have often thought that you can almost define art by this method; give a poor artist money, and see if he produces better art, take away a *rich artist's* wealth, and see if his creative spring dries up. Not even the ducking-stool presented a more cruelly circular argument, and not even the Irish can square the circle.

Haughey's ha'pence will not, I imagine, do anybody any harm, except the Irish taxpayers, and since I have quite enough to do in keeping the head of the Levinish taxpayer above water I can spare no tears for them. It will do the recipients quite a bit of good, of course, though even that may be offset over the years by cumulative damage to the liver. But the cause of art will not be advanced by the length of Mr Haughey's brass neck.

> Costard had a word for it: Remuneration! O! that's the Latin word for three farthings: three farthings remuneration. Remuneration! why, it is a fairer word than French crown. Pray you, sir, how much carnation ribband may a man buy for a remuneration?

Enough, it seems, to tie round 150 licensed practitioners in blarney. But not enough, alas, to ensure that among them they produce as much creation as will cover one farthing, let alone three.

Melvyn Westlake examines the uneven rate of progress among the poorer nations

Why some stride out and others fall behind

It is only in the last 30 years that economic development has become a major goal for most of what were once known as the world's backward regions and are today called the developing countries—or collectively, and more vaguely, the Third World. There are more than 100 such countries, the vast majority of which did not exist as sovereign states at the end of the Second World War.

Overall, these countries have made impressive strides during the past three decades, but the experience has been far from uniform. The 40 or so poorest nations (those with national *income per head of population* of $360 or less in 1978) have, on average, grown more slowly than the "middle income" Third World states (with incomes per head of between $360 and $3,500), and the rich industrial nations (with an average income per head of $8,070 in 1978).

As a consequence, the gap between the poorest and the richer nations has widened, both relatively and absolutely, contrary to the view expressed by Professor F. A. Hayek in an article in these columns last January.

However, it is also true that there has been some diversity of experience even among the poorest nations, and it does not follow that they have all done worse than the rich countries, or that some of the latter have not performed badly. There would certainly appear to be no fixed relationship between the level of national income that Third World countries started with, a generation ago, and their subsequent rates of economic growth.

At the same time there is no evidence either to support the argument, also advanced by Hayek, that those developing nations that have done well have been those that have promoted "effective market economies", and those that have done badly are the ones that have followed a socialist road to development.

For all developing countries taken together, the last 30 years has been a period of quite remarkably rapid economic growth. *The annual* average increase in gross national product per person in Third World nations has been around 3-3½ per cent (the precise figure depends on which countries are included in the calculation). This was similar to average growth in the industrialized nations over the same period, *but about twice* as fast as today's rich nations achieved during the preceding three-quarters of a century. Moreover, for much of the Third World it followed several millennia of little or no economic change.

However, the record is decidedly bleaker when considered at a less generalized level. In a study undertaken for the World Bank, covering the period 1950-75, Professor Morawetz showed that, on the one hand, nine countries with a combined population of 930 million people in 1975 grew at an average annual rate of 4.2 per cent or better, and a second group of nine countries, with 220 million people grew at 3-4 per cent. On the other hand the large, poor countries of South Asia and many countries in Africa, with a total of some 1,100 million people, experienced per capita income growth of less than 2 per cent a year.

Thus, although it was true that per capita income had roughly trebled for some 33 per cent of the people of the developing world during the period, it was also true that for another 40 per cent the increase in per capita income had been only one or two dollars a year.

The group of fastest growing nations included both the People's Republic of China (one of the world's poorest nations) and Taiwan. Other poor countries, such as South Korea and Thailand, which in 1950 would have been numbered among the bottom group of "low income" countries, also did better than average.

Neither does there seem to be any clear pattern among the middle-income communist countries. In the 1960s and 1970s Cuba experienced a decline in per capita income while North Korea, Romania and Yugoslavia grew faster.

The result of 30 years growth in the developing world has not, however, greatly affected the income gap between rich and poor countries. As, overall, the developed and developing nations grew at a similar rate, the relative "gap" has held fairly constant. Between 1950 and 1975 the average per capita income in the Third World remained around 7 to 8 per cent of that of the industrialized countries, according to the Morawetz study.

Some developing countries managed to narrow the relative gap, others saw it widen. But the absolute gap between the developed and developing countries widened in all cases. In every region the absolute gap at least doubled, even where Third World growth was most rapid. In 1950 the average gross national product per capita in the industrialized nations (in 1974 dollars) was *$2,191 greater than for the* average in developing countries. By 1975 this difference had more than doubled to $4,839.

This is because of the algebra of gaps. Even where a developing country is growing twice as fast as the industrialized nations, the absolute gap *will continue to widen until per* capita gross national product in the developing country reaches half that of the rich nations.

If historical growth rates were maintained, the absolute gap would never be closed for the large *majority* of developing countries, containing most of the world's population. Even among the fastest growing developing countries (excluding a couple of oil-rich ones) only eight would close the absolute gap within 100 years, according to Morawetz; and only 16 would close it within 1,000 years.

The difficulty of comparing the economic performance of those Third World nations which have centrally planned economies with those regarded as having market economies (as Hayek does) is that the distinction is very blurred. Only a handful of developing countries are avowedly communist, but most of them use the agency of the state to pursue a wide range of social and economic objectives. Many also undertake some economic planning and deploy a battery of controls on trade. Few allow the price mechanism full sway.

In South Korea, which is *usually held up as a paragon* of capitalist virtue, the government has played an active role in the economy. The massive export assault was accompanied by a considerable range of import controls.

The government had overwhelming control of the organized banking sector, effec*tively directing about two-thirds* of investment reasources in the early 1970s. That is a measure of control achieved by few countries outside the communist block. The public sector absorbed a substantial slice of these investment resources. In Brazil, too, the state sector was crucial to the country's "economic miracle", and the biggest domestic companies are state-owned.

But economic development in the Third World is not solely growth. Equally important is the reduction of poverty and an improvement in the material welfare of the people. It is increasingly accepted that growth by itself is unlikely to solve or even greatly alleviate the problem of poverty in any reasonable time. The reduction of poverty requires policy measures aimed at achieving that end.

Over the last 30 years the *proportion of people in absolute* poverty is thought to have fallen, but because population has increased, the *number* in absolute poverty has risen. Average life expectancy has increased from 42 to 54 years. The proportion of adults who are literate has risen from about 30 per cent to more than 50 per *cent.*

Again, the advances have not been uniform. In some countries the benefits of economic growth have not been fully shared with their poorest citizens because income inequality has increased. Most Third World communist countries (including Cuba, which has seen little economic growth in 20 years) get high marks *for* the level of life expectancy or literacy—or both—and income equality. So do fast-growing states such as South Korea and Taiwan, and slow-growing nations such as Tanzania and Sri Lanka (in relationship to their positions in the poverty league).

It would seem that those countries that have had most success in reducing poverty are those that, regardless of political system and economic strategy, have deliberately and decisively sought to do so.

LONDON DIARY

Inputting the newprint media data

Sharp-eyed readers may have noticed a subtle change in the appearance of parts of this newspaper in recent days. The reason is that the long and painful process of exorcising the ghost of William Caxton has finally begun: since Monday morning, some of our words have been turned to type by computer.

For the time being the London Diary continues to be hacked from a block of granite by a man with a flint axe, but if you turn today to the Social Focus page, the property column or the broadcasting guide, you will find the New Technology at work.

It is the intention that the entire editorial content of the newspaper should have "gone cold" by about midsummer. Later, when the omnipotent computer has seized control of our advertising pages and of *The Sunday Times*, I expect the last Linotype hot metal composing machine, one of the wonders of mechanical invention, will be carried out of the back door at dead of night and conveyed to a waiting museum.

I have been upstairs to inspect the hardware, and I can tell you that it is all very mysterious and frightening to a simple grubby-collared newshound, partly because computer men, who all wear clean collars, speak a language of their own. They gave me an "overview" which is their word for a quick guided tour, not a chance to look at the building from a helicopter.

The computer is housed in an air-conditioned room with double security doors and grilles in the floor which emit clouds of poison gas in case of *fire—a final solution* for recalcitrant employees, perhaps. The compositors, who also wear clean collars under the new system, sit outside in a quiet, carpeted room, tapping out green, luminous words on television screens.

The temptation to try out-witting this insufferably clever box of silicon chips is immense, and it is not difficult. A colleague baffled two successive computer terminals, first by writing a story in Greek, and second by feeding a string of very rude words into the system.

"If you do that", admonished the head computer man sternly, "*it will degrade the mainframe* response time." I think he meant it would slow things up.

I notched up my own private disaster by feeding the computer a highly spurious story about certain notable public personages and then attempting to get it back on the screen to savour its improbable and shockingly seditious detail. "You have cocked it up", said the computer man, and the screen concurred by flashing the cryptic message: "No such command in database."

"That story is lost forever into the ether. It no longer exists", said the computer man with a frisson of impatience normally reserved for addressing the mentally retarded.

I do not believe him, and I do not trust the machine. One day, in about a year's time, the giant memory banks are going to find my little piece of trainee sedition and cough it up right in the middle of that day's first leader.

Speaking of computers, I hear from a spy at the Open University of a new word creeping into currency to describe those who can not only read and count, but can operate data processing machines as well. Such persons are said to be "computerate." Ugh.

Sales line

In recent weeks many residents of Norfolk have found fat white envelopes bearing the come-hither legend "This could be worth more than £15 to you" thudding on their doormats. The contents are not *Persil* coupons, nor even a special offer for a *Reader's Digest* 36-part set of full-colour *door-stopping encyclopaedias.*

Not at all. The envelope contains an offer from British Telecom of cut price telephone installations. For the month of March only, unconnected dwellers in the Norwich telephone area can have the odious instrument installed for £57.50 instead of the normal rate of £74.75. There is a further offer of £3.45 off the cost of adding an extension to an existing phone.

Such a sales pitch will be treated with surprise and even scepticism by people in other parts of the land who have asked of their own accord for the phone to be put in, only to find that there is such a long waiting list that the employment of a man with a forked stick becomes a serious alternative.

But British Telecom assured me yesterday that they have plenty of lines to spare in the Norwich area. In 50 per cent of cases, residential phones could be connected in two to three weeks and business lines in four to six weeks. And the other 50 per cent? Ah, well, there are some areas, even around Norwich, where a shortage of equipment could mean a longer wait.



Cut-price installation offers have been used as a marketing tool since 1973 and their use is up to regional telephone controllers, I am told. Good luck if you get one, but once the quarterly bills begin to arrive you may well wish that envelope had contained a half-price *Reader's Digest* guide on how to resist special offers.

The Whips were certainly busy for the Commons Budget debate on Monday night. There on the Tory benches was Edward Heath, ordered by his doctor to cancel all engagements in March and April, but persuaded by the party's head hunters to make an exception on this important occasion.

Cost analysis

Sorry though I am to learn from Friends of the Earth that one cyclist is killed every weekday on British roads, I am also irritated by the tendency to accompany such claims with meaningless statistics.

For example, the Friends say in a press release that "each fatal accident costs the community £120,000". Puzzled how this could be, I asked them where the figure came from.

The answer, after a few minutes' delay, was: "From the British Road Federation." All right, where did the Federation get the figure from? Another answer, after further telephone calls: "From the Department of Transport."

Well, when was the figure first published and where? Answer, after the longest interval of the series: "Er, they don't seem to be able to trace it."

Malteaser

Last week's ban on sales of *The Times* in Malta is only one example of a curious attitude towards newspapers on the island.

For some years now the words "Malta", "nation" and their various derivatives have been in effect the property of Dom Mintoff's Labour government, and are apparently not to be used without permission.

Even the Maltese do not seem to know the reason for the law, which has led to some strange circumlocutions. *The Times of Malta*, for example, is now simply *The Times*. The opposition party journal, *In-Nazzjon Taghna*, is known simply as *In-... Taghna*; on its masthead, where the word *Nazzjon* (Nation) used to be, there now appears an outline sketch of the island state.

So far there has been no edict ordering all references to the Prime Minister to be replaced by a picture of a mint toffee.

Lower overhead

Yet another sign of these disturbing times is the news that more than half of the famous Barkers' department store in Kensington High Street may be turned into offices. The building was recently listed as of historic and architectural interest, and a notice at street level proclaims that it houses the third largest shop in London.

Last night Kensington and Chelsea council's planning committee was presented with an application to change the use of the top four floors. I understand that the scheme also envisages letting part of the lower floors to a separate retailer and setting up three independent small shops on the High Street frontage.

The House of Fraser, which owns Barkers, and which has recently been having its troubles with "Tiny" Rowland, could not find anyone yesterday to comment. But what with a similar contraction planned for another of the country's great institutions, the Savoy Hotel, I am wondering where it will all end.

They must keep highly intelligent and disciplined cattle in Cambridgeshire. A report on cattle grids before the county council last week said that in the parish of Soham, before 1976, "livestock were prevented from straying by gates which were habitually left open".

Alan Hamilton

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THE MISDIRECTED TORY REVOLT

The Government Whips experienced their worst day in the present Parliament on Monday. They saw one Conservative MP cross the floor of the House to join the Social Democrats. Eight others voted against the Government over the increase in petrol tax, and at least twenty more abstained. Altogether it was the biggest backbench revolt against the Government since it took office.

This cannot have come as a surprise to the Whips or to ministers. They must have known from the mood of the backbenchers — almost from the moment that the Chancellor sat down on Tuesday afternoon, but certainly by Wednesday — that there was bound to be a substantial protest at some stage. Petrol tax provides a convenient issue for those who are dissatisfied with the Budget on wider grounds because the increase has aroused particularly strong feelings among many traditional Tory supporters in rural areas. It is therefore possible for MPs from such constituencies to rebel without upsetting their local associations. Indeed, they can claim to be performing the traditional function of an MP in representing his constituency's interests at Westminster.

The extent of the revolt was enough to be severely embarrassing, but not to inflict more immediate damage on the Government than that. All the Budget resolutions were passed, even if with a disconcertingly small majority for the petrol tax. Sir Geoffrey has not been forced to go back to his desk and do his sums again. If Monday's events could be regarded simply as an isolated episode, the Chancellor could afford to shrug his shoulders and go on his way with the comforting reflection that politics always was a bumpy life. But what must be worrying him and other ministers is that Monday's embarrassments may be the forerunner of further troubles to come.

These troubles will be of two kinds. The first is that there is now a general drop of confidence in the Government on the Conservative backbenches. There was probably never a majority of Conservative MPs who were positively convinced by Mrs Thatcher's doctrines. There were always minorities on the right and left who respectively loved and loathed these doctrines. The general body of Conservative MPs liked the thrust towards lower taxes and less government, and they hoped she was right.

The election victory did much to assure them that she was, because the Conservatives have a relish for electoral victory beyond that of any other party. But now they see ministers failing to achieve their objectives and the Cabinet living in a state of apparently perpetual discord that had previously been associated with Labour administrations. Scepticism about the Government has grown among backbenchers who are not to be numbered among the habitual critics. Monday's events were a symptom of this scepticism which is liable to cause more difficulty on other issues in the months ahead.

The second kind of trouble that was foreshadowed by Monday's revolt is that the Government may well have problems in getting the proposed petrol tax increase through Parliament unchanged when the Finance Bill comes along. The Budget resolutions could not be amended: it was therefore a choice between accepting the proposed level of tax or rejecting any increase in petrol tax at all. But the Finance Bill can be amended, so it will be possible to vote for, say, half the increase proposed by the Chancellor.

The critics will claim that the full increase would discriminate too harshly against the rural way of life, and that it would push up industrial costs excessively. But these are not arguments that Sir Geoffrey can accept within the terms of his own Budget strategy. He has got to raise the revenue somehow. It would be worse to put up VAT again or to increase the standard rate of income tax. Petrol is cheaper, in any event, in Britain than in most other European countries and the proposed increase barely restores the tax to the 1973 percentage of retail price. Most importantly of all, it is capital spending for investment, not current spending for consumption, which requires advocacy. Whatever other criticisms may be made of the Budget, and whatever political embarassments ministers may face, this is an issue on which the Government should stand firm.

STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN SYRIA

Reports of violence in the Syrian town of Hama over the past nine months are further evidence that the regime of President Hafez Assad is under consistent pressure from a widely based opposition movement. The regime has been trying for over a year now to track down and eliminate its enemies. It has brought into being a range of security forces, some under the command of the President's brother, Colonel Rifaat Assad, and all ruthless in their methods. They carry out indiscriminate reprisals on a large scale when government officials are assassinated. The incidents at Hama have been echoed at Homs, in Aleppo and in Damascus itself.

The failure of such methods to eradicate opposition is largely due to the organization and underground experience of the Assad regime's principal opponent, the Muslim Brotherhood. The Brotherhood's strength lies in its very shadowiness, and in its ability to channel resentment against the Assad brothers, who are nominally fellow Muslims but come from the minority Alawite sect, which is widely disliked. The Muslim Brotherhood, by contrast, draws on the traditions of the Sunni branch of Islam, to which most Syrians adhere.

The Brotherhood was founded in Egypt in 1928, with the aim of establishing by paramilitary means a state in which fundamentalist Islam would hold sway in all aspects of national life—social and political as well as religious. Numerous setbacks have not sapped this ambition, least of all in Syria, where a strong branch of the Brotherhood was established early on. Even the massacre of over 500 Muslim Brothers at Palmyra jail last summer left the organization thirsting for revenge rather than reeling from the blow.

The declared aim of the Muslim Brotherhood is to overthrow President Assad. Some of its leaders have spoken of a "final push" by the end of this year. Certainly, Syria's descent towards civil war comes at a time when the Assad regime is increasingly isolated internationally, as well as shaky internally. Damascus is alone in the Arab world, and has only the friendship of Colonel Gaddafi, which is a dubious asset. Even Russia's friendship is of doubtful value, since Moscow is quite capable of switching its protection among rival power groups whenever expedient.

For the moment, however, the Soviet Union is likely to keep its money on President Assad, if only because the alternative—a revivalist, Islamic regime—is even less palatable. In any case, the President controls the Army, which is the key to power in Syria, and he has deliberately courted the merchant class, which would otherwise be one of the main potential sources of support for a Muslim Brotherhood regime.

It is also doubtful whether the people of Syria would really benefit by having the Muslim Brothers installed in place of the "Alawite Mafia" in Damascus. According to their "revolutionary manifesto", if they came to power, the Brotherhood would abolish prisons and torture; hold "direct elections"; permit freedom of speech and assembly; and even refrain from taking revenge on Assad supporters. There must however be a suspicion—borne out by historical precedent—that those who have learnt to be ruthless and unscrupulous in underground opposition find it difficult to be fair minded and democratic when in power.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S AWKWARD GUEST

This week's visit to Washington by General Viola, who is to take office as President of Argentina later this month, is a sign of the new policies being adopted towards Latin America by the Reagan Administration. The Argentine military regime has one of the worst human rights records in the region, and the Carter Administration tried to improve it by, for instance, a ban on arms sales. By contrast, Mr Reagan has announced that he will ask Congress to lift the ban, which is likely to be agreed; and the emphasis in the talks General Viola has been having has been on defence of the western hemisphere rather than human rights.

This approach is very much in line with the Administration's policy in El Salvador, with its backing for the military rule there regardless of its human rights record, and its emphasis on the global struggle against communism. And Chile has been getting similar treatment. President Pinochet's regime has made itself something of an international outcast since its overthrow of the Allende government in 1973. It also committed an act of extraordinary effrontery when it organized the assassination in Washington in 1976 of Orlando Letelier, a prominent Chilean exile; when the Santiago authorities refused to extradite three Chilean officers alleged to have been responsible, the Carter Administration imposed sanctions, among them the stopping of export credit guarantees. These sanctions have been lifted by the new Administration, and the Chilean Navy is to take part once again in combined manoeuvres with the United States and other Latin American countries.

There are plenty of indications, therefore, that American policy under Mr Reagan could be slipping back into a traditional pattern, of support for established interests and military regimes. On this reading, policy towards El Salvador is only the most extreme example of an attitude which refuses to see that the crying need throughout much of Latin America is for social and economic reform; and which tends to see all leftist movements, whether terrorist or not, as part of an international conspiracy. Historically, this has been the attitude of much of American business, as well as the military, and they have had much too much influence on Washington's policies towards its southern neighbours. In small countries, like Cuba and Nicaragua, the result has been that when an unpopular dictatorship is overthrown, the new leadership has been fair game for the Russians and so fulfilled the worst fears of the right.

For the time being, however, American policy towards Latin America is still in the process of formation. The hope must be, therefore, that once it gets into its stride, the new Administration will see the need to avoid the simple counter productive responses of the far right. There are already signs of doubts about making to El Salvador a test of virility. Major d'Aubuisson, the extreme rightist who called for a coup in El Salvador, has been disowned; and support reaffirmed for President Duarte's regime which, amid the appalling bloodshed, has made some effort at reforms.

The larger countries of South America are different. There is not the same immediate danger of civil war and revolution. But for a number of reasons American influence has been greatly reduced, in what was once an area on which it could rely on. This is partly a matter of economic inroads made by Japanese and Europeans, partly of greater self-confidence. It was a considerable shock for the Americans when they found that neither Brazil nor Argentina was prepared to back them in their grain embargo against the Soviet Union following the Afghanistan invasion.

In making an effort to reestablish good relations with the military dictatorships of the Southern Cone, therefore, the Americans are pursuing an understandable interest. The Carter Administration, which had initially upset some of them by its erratic behaviour, as well as his human rights policy, had been moving in the same direction. But the Reagan Administration should not give up the leverage it still has in the region by giving the impression that it no longer cares about human rights. Whether in El Salvador, Argentina or Chile, it should continue to press with all its weight for what are, after all, American standards of decency.

Cut price air fares

From Lady Burton of Coventry and Lady Elliot of Harwood

Sir, Truly we live in an age of bureaucracy: are systems made for travellers or travellers for systems? Since November we have been trying to get something done about the availability of cheap air fares: in particular to solve the system which last year allowed some five million discounted air tickets to be sold by bucket shops at discounts of up to 60 per cent when the law, the Government and IATA (the International Air Transport Association) declare this to be illegal.

It really is complete nonsense. What is the use of a law that everyone ignores—including those responsible for framing it? The Government says that IATA is a trade organization and that it is not possible for a government to impose its views on the members of that association. IATA says that it is powerless to deal with the matter while Britain is lax in applying the law.

Of course airlines in membership of IATA are not allowed to discount their tickets to bucket shops: on the other hand at least 40 major airlines do so. Surely these airlines and IATA should now deal with the matter. After all, they *are* the trade organization. The holiday season is upon us. Travellers want cheap tickets and airlines want to fill otherwise empty seats. Legitimate agents want to sell cheap tickets—they have customers too. Yet they are not allowed to do so even though last year the member airlines of IATA lost more than £1,000m.

ABTA (the Association of British Travel Agents) has declared that the Government should either enforce the law or change it. It is indeed true that the last place to find the cheapest international fares available in Britain at present is a travel agency. Such a situation is unfair to ABTA members and unfair to travellers—in fact, it is plain stupid and an example of the bureaucratic mind. Surely it would be to the advantage of everyone concerned—government, IATA, ABTA, agents, airlines and travellers—if all cheap tickets were available to all retail outlets.

Can nobody get rid of this red tape? We have done our best.
Yours faithfully,
BURTON OF COVENTRY,
ELLIOT OF HARWOOD,
House of Lords.
March 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judging universities in industry's terms

From the Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University

Sir, Mr Christopher Bland writes (March 14), "'The possibility of having to close whole universities ... is being openly discussed.' The closure of whole companies is far past the discussion stage ... Unless real economies are made in the non-productive sectors of the public service ...". Three comments.

1. Real economies. Between 1972 and 1978 the University of Lancaster reduced its cost per student by 13 per cent. Since 1972 the cost of space heating have been reduced by 37.4 per cent (leading to a Gas Management "Energy" Award): working temperatures used to be a joke, but are now beyond it. Administration costs have been reduced from 7.2 per cent of the budget in 1971-72 to 5.6 per cent of the budget in 1980-81. Support staff have been run down, so that highly paid and qualified staff now do work (their own typing for instance) which support staff used to do.

My impression is (an exact count would be excessively costly) that the number of scientific papers written, inventions made and marketed, industrial and other consultancies, books of scholarship published, works of art created, has been larger per member of staff in the later years of the decade than in the earlier years. Every effort has been bent to holding teaching staff—the essence of a university—but even here there has been a freeze on all appointments and vacancies, relaxed in the past sixteen months only in three cases. The number of students successfully graduating has increased each year. No labour troubles. What would the state of our affairs be if all enterprises throughout the country could equal this record of efficiency, economy, and productivity?

2. The implied parallelism of closing universities and closing companies. The purpose of an economic policy leading to company closures is presumably to bring about the replacement of the unproductive or unprofitable or under-capitalized or uncompetitive with new enterprises which will be none of these. The purpose of closing a university would be to reduce the educational provision, so the analogy is inapt.

3. The non-productive sectors of the public service. "Non-productive" needs differentiating. The dustman is unproductive, as is the concert pianist and the football player. Where education should lie on the continuum of the "non-productive" sector from essential to desirable to disposable luxury is a matter of judgment, because no causal connexion has been demonstrated between the well-being of a society and its level of education. However we note that a people that is largely illiterate and has a low level of skills is commonly poor. We also note that few of the developed societies have as low a proportion as Britain of people entering post-school education, and few of the developed economies have done as badly as Britain in the past three decades. I do not claim that nothing is wrong with our educational system. But I suspect that if we reduce it rather than reform it many of the other objectives of this or any other government will be rendered unattainable.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. REYNOLDS,
University House,
Bailrigg,
Lancaster.

From the Head Master of University College School

Sir, The response of the Vice-Chancellors to government cuts in expenditure on universities and further education has a certain hysterical note of unreality. The massive expansion following the Robbins report during the 1960s instilled the idea that the taxpayer would foot an ever-increasing bill. Instant lecturers, readers and even professors were recruited from all sources to fill the vacant places in new institutions. Tenure was granted to most of them after a probationary period until the age of 67. I think the taxpayer has the right to know what tests of action and productivity are applied. We are not yet a mandarin society which preserves a structure and staffing with no sense of the realities of life in the 1980s.

Roses, however sweet, need to be pruned. Ivory towers have an elevation of their own. I recently received information about a new degree course being introduced at a certain University. The subject was "Dance". I am all for dancing but not when there is work to be done. Vice-Chancellors and their staffs might care to face up to some stubborn and reducible facts.

Yours faithfully,
W. A. BARKER,
University College School,
Frognal,
Hampstead, NW3.
March 13.

Sale of 'The Observer'

From Mr John Smith, MP for Lanark, North (Labour)

Sir, In 1973, when the newspaper mergers provisions of the Fair Trading Act were enacted, Parliament clearly intended that certain concentrations of newspaper power should not be permitted without the possibility of public consideration of the issues involved. Thus the mergers of newspapers having a circulation of over 500,000 were rendered illegal unless reference was made to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the consent of the Secretary of State was obtained.

One loophole was left. If a newspaper was not economic and there was a case of urgency, it was possible for the Secretary of State to consent without requiring a reference to the Commission. Through that loophole, Mr Rupert Murdoch with the help of the Government steered his way to the acquisition of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* on the footing (not surprisingly still queried) that *The Sunday Times* was not economic as a going concern.

Now an application has been made by Lonrho for approval of the proposed acquisition of *The Observer* without reference to the Commission. If, in this case, the Secretary of State decided not to refer, one wonders what is the point in having on the Statute Book any purported system of control if it is so easily avoided. I do not know what is the economic condition of *The Observer* but I doubt if its proposed acquisition is a case of urgency such as would justify a decision not to refer.

If this occurs, three of our major newspapers, *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Observer* will have changed hands without there being any public consideration whatsoever of the consequences of these changes.

Speaking for the Opposition, I submit that it is imperative that the acquisition of *The Observer* is now referred to the Commission by the Secretary of State and I hope that it will be possible for others concerned about the consequences for our press of recent developments to indicate their support for such a course of action.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SMITH,
Principal Opposition Spokesman on Trade, Prices and Consumer Protection,
House of Commons.
March 17.

Mrs Thatcher in Ulster

From Dr John Cushnahan

Sir, I do not normally feel motivated to rush to the defence of the Prime Minister. Apart from the fact that she is well able to do it herself, I am totally opposed to many of the policies of her Government, particularly in the field of the economy which has resulted in a dramatic escalation in unemployment and inflicted further suffering and hardship on those who can least afford it.

However, having said this, I find the allegations made in a recent letter to your columns by the Social Democratic and Labour Party spokesman, Dr Brian Feeney (March 12), totally unjustified and grossly unfair. Dr Feeney claims that her recent visit to Northern Ireland (and her speech in particular) was tainted with sectarianism. As someone who was present when the speech was delivered I find this particular claim to be amazingly wild and hysterical and missing what I consider to be the main reason for her visit on March 5.

Clearly Mrs Thatcher came to Northern Ireland to undermine the sinister campaign of Mr Paisley regarding the Anglo-Irish summit which is clearly designed to heighten community tensions and exploit them for his own narrow ends. In order to do this Mrs Thatcher had to state that her meetings with Mr Haughey did not involve a "sell-out" and that the constitutional position of Northern Ireland will not be changed unless the people of Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom Parliament decide otherwise. Because Mrs Thatcher once again reasserted the right of the people of Northern Ireland to decide their own constitutional future Dr Feeney considers this "sectarian". What is even more ironic is that this statement is perfectly compatible with what the SDLP constitution itself says on the matter. But then I suppose that, given recent policy developments within the party, they do not want to be reminded of this!

Dr Feeney then goes on to imply that the Prime Minister's remarks on security were sectarian. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mrs Thatcher's speech was punctuated with clear and unequivocal statements that the rule of law would apply equally to everyone and also that the security forces themselves must operate fully within the law.

Furthermore, I am surprised at the tone of Dr Feeney's letter, given the clear commitment that Mrs Thatcher has given to the continuation of the Anglo-Irish summit. Mrs Thatcher's emphatic statement that this cooperation would continue and (in a clear reference to Mr Paisley) that she would not be deterred from pursuing this policy by intimidation from anyone hardly bears the hallmarks of a sectarian statement. I would suggest it has more the qualities of statesmanship. Is he therefore accusing the Prime Minister of being sectarian simply because she doesn't support the policy of the SDLP?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN CUSHNAHAN,
General Secretary,
The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland,
88 University Street,
Belfast.

Missing Cypriots

From Lord Spens

Sir, Professor Browning and his co-signatories from Birkbeck college (letter, March 16) perpetuate a myth, which has been encouraged by the Greek Cypriot authorities, when they write about 2,000 missing Cypriots. If they must write about large numbers of missing Cypriots, why have they omitted the 800 Turkish Cypriots missing in the earlier troubles since 1963?

They say "During the two ... Turkish military operations in Cyprus in summer 1974", but they omit the fact that there were five days of violent fighting between the supporters of Samson and those of Makarios, between July 15 and July 20, before the Turkish army intervened. That period was sufficient to drive Makarios from his post as President and very many Greek Cypriots were killed and how many went missing?

Since 1974 both the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent have investigated the claim that 2,000 Greek Cypriots were missing. I understand that less than thirty cases remain unexplained.

Now that the two communities are engaged in intercommunal talks it ill befits anyone to foster such a myth about missing Cypriots, especially one which only includes the Greek Cypriots.

Yours faithfully,
SPENS,
House of Lords.
March 16.

Budget: trade union constraints

From Lord Roberthall

Sir, In your first leader of March 13 (Questions for the Wets) you ask a number of questions about the strategic objectives of the Government. You are certainly right in saying that we cannot begin to have a rational debate about our problems until they, and possible solutions, have been clearly stated.

You do not mention what many people (including myself) consider to be the basic problem—the constraints imposed by the power of trade unions on the Government's ability to act, particularly in the public sector. It was these which led to the belief that full employment and reasonable price stability were incompatible, except with an incomes policy. The growth of monetarism was at least in part the outcome of the experience that this was in practice at most a temporary palliative, with the disease more virulent after each experiment. We are now seeing that it does not follow that because incomes policy was a failure, monetary policy must be a success.

This bears on the first specific question you ask, "Is monetary control the sole or sufficient way of reducing inflation?" Inflation is coming down, at a very high price in terms of wasted resources, but it is hard to see this as a victory for monetarism, since the chosen monetary meaure (M3) is still going up. This is much easier to explain in Keynesian terms.

The Budget, however, seems to be based on an extreme form of monetarism. The fall in inflation is partly due to the effect of our own policies on the exchange rate, and partly to the very severe pressure on the private sector, reducing both profits and the size of wage settlements there. The Government's difficulties have been with the public sector, where both expenditure and the level of wage settlements have been too buoyant.

But the impact of the Budget will not make either of these much easier. What it will do is to add to the pressures on the private sector. To the less extreme monetarist this sector seems to be treated like a whipping boy, to shame the real culprit, or as this is very unlikely, at least to relieve the feelings of the tutor.

The purpose claimed for the Budget is to reduce public borrowing, to help in keeping the money supply under control. But only an extreme monetarist would argue that a very tight money supply will restrain those who have a stranglehold on essential services. It is of the greatest advantage to the country to have a leader whose courage is undoubted, but one can still have doubts about the strategy.

As you say, Sir, those who criticise ought to say what they would like to do. My own view is that our troubles are now deep-rooted. The ideal solution would be to persuade the trade unions that it is in the interests of the vast majority of their members to moderate inflation; and that this requires an incomes policy which they themselves would help to police. But all efforts over the last thirty years have failed and it is Utopian to urge that we should try again.

If this is out of the question, the country will have to face the fact that good government requires power and responsibility to be in the same hands, and that in economic matters this requirement is not met.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERTHALL,
7a Carey Mansions,
Rutherford Street, SW1.

From Mr Christopher Gore-Booth

Sir, Forgive the simple-minded statement that the Conservative Party is suffering a surfeit of economics, the Labour Party a surfeit of politics, the electorate a surfeit of both. For one party to say they don't give a fig for the PSBR is no better than the other finding the risk of inflated money more immoral than the fact of mass unemployment.

Britain needs a return to the worship of sound money as little as it deserved the socialism offered by successive Labour Governments in the past—a socialism which now looks like a conspiracy between government and organized labour, with the consent of industry, to promote inefficiency, under-investment and high wages for the few, and progressively higher levels of structural unemployment for the rest of us.

The one thing Thatcherite determination guarantees is a reversal of current policies in 1984: a reversal to be tempered at last by an emergent Centre. But is this Centre both orthodox enough to protect the life-blood of private industry and radical enough to change our parliamentary, educational and financial institutions which, unreformed, are such a drag on British enterprise?

Can I at least implore Conservative and Labour politicians to stop hitting each other over the head with their sectarian handbags and to permit those constitutional changes which will allow a central alliance to show what it can do for Britain?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER GORE-BOOTH,
42 Ringford Road, SW18.
March 15.

From Mr W. Bonwitt

Sir, Where else could I find the money (leader, March 16)? Simple. By a swingeing increase in all betting duties and gaming licences. Such an increase would offset at least the duty on diesel fuel which is a direct tax on industry and probably most of the petrol tax increase as well.

And while the Chancellor takes up this suggestion he should show sufficient sense to forget about the "windfall tax" on bank profits, which is not only fatuous but dangerous in its implications for the future and, being retrospective, an immoral and dishonourable swindle.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
W. BONWITT,
15 Shrewsbury House,
Cheyne Walk, SW3.
March 16.

From Mr A. L. M. Christie

Sir, "Where would you find the money, then?"

By putting up income tax, of course. Income tax is the fairest tax of all.

Yours faithfully,
A. L. M. CHRISTIE,
The Street,
Old Costessey,
Norwich.
March 16.

Giving the game away

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, Whatever the merits or otherwise of Sir Geoffrey Howe's and the Prime Minister's Budget, it has surely been an appalling few days for those, other than politicians, who have imagined they have been living within a democracy?

Has any normal man or woman of experience thought for a moment that so important a part of policy as the Budget was at no time discussed at length and in detail by the entire Cabinet? Would any chairman of a public company decide upon such issues without consultation with his board? A few may, but if it came to light in subsequent trouble would be scathingly dismissed as irresponsible by any inquiry.

The Prime Minister chooses her own Cabinet colleagues and yet apparently dismisses the idea of full Cabinet involvement in the Budget as an impossible exercise because of the danger of "leaks".

One is inclined to wonder if a more monumental self-revelationary "leak" has ever emanated from any Minister, let alone from a Prime Minister reputedly made of iron.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY,
The Old Silk Mill,
Blockley,
Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

From Professor A. R. Prest

Sir, It is reported by the media that Cabinet Ministers have, after their experience this year, been pressing for earlier information on Budget proposals than is customary.

It is perhaps appropriate that this should come on the fiftieth anniversary of a request to the then Chancellor, Philip Snowden, of a similar nature.

His unequivocal answer was: "Past experience has shown that a premature Cabinet disclosure is as good as a full page advertisement in the *Daily Mail*." (David Marquand, *Ramsey MacDonald*, Jonathan Cape, 1977, p594.)

Yours faithfully,
A. R. PREST,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.

The Pope and birth control

From Mr Gerard Noel

Sir, Fr Bernard Orchard (March 14) states that "the Pope knows that the whole moral health of the world is involved in his fight against contraception". The credibility of the Roman Church today is greatly harmed by such unfortunate statements which pay scant attention to the lessons of history. Popes of the past, for example, thought that the moral health of the world was involved in their fight against the principle and practice of usury.

In 1745 Benedict XIV solemnly declared it seriously sinful to reclaim anything but the exact amount of a loan. He was thus reaffirming 14 centuries of Church teaching that the asking of interest on money was against the law of God.

In due course, however, this prohibition gave way under the pressure of Christendom's collective conscience. The Papacy was in a dilemma as it does not like to rescind its past solemn pronouncements. So it "solved" its problem not by repealing its condemnation of the principle of usury (which it has never done) but by taking action through its Sacred Penitentiary. In 1830—in answer to increasingly anxious inquiries—a series of decisions was issued stating that the faithful who lent money at *moderate* rates of interest need not be "disturbed" in conscience provided they were willing to abide by any future decisions of the Holy See. (Honour saved all round?)

Eventually some such "solution" will be sought for the present dilemma, but probably only after it is already too late. Millions of Catholics have already left the Catholic Church because of reiteration, by hardliners, of their particular interpretation of Pope Paul's famous encyclical. And about half the world's remaining Catholics—averaging out the various surveys on the subject—do not believe that contraception is automatically sinful.

It is dangerous and misleading to make the test of Catholic "loyalty" dependent on adherence to a non-infallible papal dictum rather than the voice of genuine conscience. It was Cardinal Newman who said, "If I am obliged to bring religion into after-dinner toasts I shall drink—to the Pope, if you please—but still to Conscience first and to the Pope afterwards".

Yours faithfully,
GERARD NOEL,
Editorial Director,
The Catholic Herald,
Herald House,
Bunhill Row, EC1.
March 16.

Dressing down

From Mrs M. E. Witt and Dr R. C. H. Witt

Sir, Your Fashion Correspondent Suzy Menkes (*The Bride and The Home*, March 7), cannot be allowed to bring Queen Victoria to marriage (1840) in a crinoline cage (invented 1855), particularly after Mr Punch's parody (for Guy Fawkes Day 1859): "God save our gracious Queen, Who won't wear Crinoline".

And if the fashion enjoyed "a slumber of a century", it had at least two periods of insomnia: Poiret's lampshade tunic just before the First War, and Dior's "New Look" just after the Second.

Yours sincerely,
M. E. WITT,
R. C. H. WITT,
1 Oakwood Park Road, N14.
March 16.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 17: The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria arrived in London today on a State Visit to The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace.

The President arrived at Gatwick Airport, London by air.

The following are the names of the Suite in attendance: Professor I. S. Audu (Minister of External Affairs), Alhaji Umaru Dikko (Minister of Transport), Alhaji Shehu Musa (Secretary to the Government of the Federation), Alhaji Idris Ibrahim (Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives), Mr Iliya Audu (Hon Senator), Dr Chuba Okadigbo (Special Adviser on Political Affairs), Chief Olu Adebanjo (Special Adviser on Information), Alhaji Y. W. Sada (State Chief of Protocol), Mr Michael Prest (Chief of Personal Staff), Dr D. S. Tafida (Chief Personal Physician to The President) and Mr Charles Igoh (Chief Press Secretary to The President).

The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by His Excellency the High Commissioner for Nigeria, welcomed The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on behalf of The Queen.

The President was then received by: Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of West Sussex), Lieutenant-General Paul Travers (General Officer Commanding South East District), Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss (Air Officer Commanding No 18 Group, Royal Air Force) and Mr Norman Payne (Chairman, British Airports Authority).

A Guard of Honour of the Queen's Colour Squadron of the Royal Air Force, with The Queen's Colour for the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom and the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, under the command of Squadron Leader Nicholas Acons was mounted at the Airport.

A salute was fired in Hyde Park by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, under the command of Major Robert Symonds.

At Gatwick Railway Station the following members of the British Suite, who have been specially attached to The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, were presented: The Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting), Sir Mervyn Brown (British High Commissioner in Lagos) and Squadron Leader Adam Wise (Equerry in Waiting).

The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, accompanied by The Duke of Gloucester, travelled by special train to Victoria Railway Station.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, with The Prince of Wales, The Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Kent met The President at Victoria Station.

There were also present at the Railway Station: The Baroness Phillips (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London), the Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury), the Right Hon William Whitelaw, MP (Secretary of State for the Home Department), the Lord Carrington (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), the Right Hon the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin (Chief of the Defence Staff), Admiral Sir Henry Leach (Chief of the Naval Staff), General Sir Edwin Bramall (Chief of the General Staff), Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Beetham (Chief of the Air Staff), Major-General Desmond Langley (General Officer Commanding London District), Sir David McNee (Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis), the Righ Hon the Chairman of the Greater London Council and the Lord Mayor of Westminster.

Colonel Andrew Hartigan, The Life Guards (Silver Stick in Waiting) and Colonel Richard Hume, Irish Guards (Field Officer in Brigade Waiting) were present.

A Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, with The Queen's Colour, the Band of the Regiment and the Corps of Drums of the Battalion, under the command of Major Guy Sayle, was mounted at Victoria Railway Station.

A salute was fired from the Tower of London Saluting Battery by the Honourable Artillery Company, under the command of Captain Anthony O'Hagan.

The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria was conducted to his Carriage by the Earl of Westmorland (Master of the Horse) and, accompanied by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, travelled to Buckingham Palace, a Carriage Procession having been formed in the following order:

FIRST CARRIAGE
THE QUEEN
THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH
The Prince of Wales

SECOND CARRIAGE
The Duke of Gloucester
The High Commissioner for Nigeria
Alhaji Y. W. Sada
The Master of the Horse

THIRD CARRIAGE
Professor I. S. Audu
Alhaji Umaru Dikko
Alhaji Shehu Musa
The Countess of Airlie

FOURTH CARRIAGE
Alhaji Idris Ibrahim
Mr Iliya Audu
Dr Chuba Okadigbo
The Lord Hamilton of Dalzell

FIFTH CARRIAGE
Chief Olu Adebanjo
Mr Michael Prest
Dr D. S. Tafida
Sir Mervyn Brown

SIXTH CARRIAGE
Mr Charles Igoh
Squadron Leader Adam Wise
Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson
Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland

MOTOR CAR
The Crown Equerry

The Carriage Procession was accompanied by a Sovereign's Escort, with two Standards, of the Household Cavalry, under the command of Major Hamon Massey, The Blues and Royals. The Queen's Guard of the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards with The Queen's Colour and accompanied by the Band of the Regiment and the Corps of Drums of the Battalion, under the command of Major Oliver Breakwell, was mounted in the Quadrangle at Buckingham Palace.

The route of the Procession was lined by the Armed Forces.

The Mistress of the Robes, the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance in the Grand Hall, Buckingham Palace, upon the arrival of The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms and The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty in the Grand Hall. A detachment of the Household Cavalry, dismounted, was also on duty.

The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria this afternoon visited Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother at Clarence House.

The President afterwards at St James's Palace, received Addresses of Welcome by the Chairman and Members of the Greater London Council and the Lord Mayor and Councillors of the City of Westminster.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a State Banquet this evening in honour of The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at which Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Prince of Wales, The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, and the Lady Diana Spencer were present.

The following had the honour of being invited:

Suite of The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Professor I. S. Audu (Minister of External Affairs), Alhaji Umaru Dikko (Minister of Transport), Alhaji Shehu Musa (Secretary to the Government of the Federation), Alhaji Idris Ibrahim (Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives), Mr Iliya Audu (Hon Senator), Dr Chuba Okadigbo (Special Adviser on Political Affairs), Chief Olu Adebanjo (Special Adviser on Information), Alhaji Y. W. Sada (State Chief of Protocol), Mr Michael Prest (Chief of Personal Staff), Dr D. S. Tafida (Chief Personal Physician to The President), Mr Charles Igoh (Chief Press Secretary to The President).

Specially Attached in Attendance upon The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting), Sir Mervyn Brown (British High Commissioner in Lagos) and Lady Brown, Squadron Leader Adam Wise (Equerry in Waiting).

Ambassadors and High Commissioners

His Excellency the High Commissioner for Mauritius and Lady Teelock, His Excellency the High Commisioner for Nigeria and Mrs Yolah, His Excellency the Netherlands Ambassador and Madame Fack, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Ivory Coast and Madame Essienne, Her Excellency the High Commissioner for Canada, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Australia, His Excellency the High Commissioner for India and Mrs Seyid Muhammad, His Excellency the High Commissioner for The Gambia and Mrs Bojang, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Ghana and Mrs Badgie, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Zimbabwe and Mrs Zwinoira, His Excellency the Saudi Arabian Ambassador.

Members of the Nigerian High Commission

Mr M. Zubairu (Minister Counsellor/Head of Chancery) and Mrs Zubairu, Brigadier U. S. Yaro (Defence Adviser).

The Cabinet

The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher, The Lord Chancellor and the Hon Mary Hogg, The Secretary of State for the Home Department and Mrs Whitelaw, The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Lady Carrington, The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Howe.

Special Invitations

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Runcie, The Right Hon the Speaker, The Earl Marshal and the Duchess of Norfolk, The Baroness Phillips, The Lord and Lady Peart, The Right Hon the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, The Lord Chief Justice of England and Lady Lane, The Right Hon Michael Foot, MP, and Mrs Foot, The Right Hon Gordon and Mrs Richardson.

The Right Hon David Steel, MP, and Mrs Steel, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence and Lady Lewin, Admiral Sir Henry and Lady Leach, Sir Michael and Lady Palliser, Sir Lionel Brett, His Excellency the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Sir David and Lady McNee, Sir Alex and Lady Jarratt, Sir Reginald and Lady Smith, Major-General and Mrs Desmond Langley, The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster, The Right Hon the Chairman of the Greater London Council and Mrs Brook-Partridge, The Right Reverend Cecil Patterson, Mr and Mrs A. A. Shillingford, Mr and Mrs Peter Baxendell, Mr and Mrs A. H. M. Kirk-Greene, Chief A. M. A. Akinloye, Mr and Mrs D. R. G. Andrews, Mr and Mrs M. H. Caine, Dr and Mrs David Carling, Professor Benjamin Enwonwu, Professor and Mrs L. C. B. Gower, Mr and Mrs J. Louden, Alhaji Shehu Malami, Mr and Mrs William Menzies-Wilson, Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Owen, Mr and Mrs David Plastow, Mr and Mrs J. Pollard, Mr and Mrs T. R. Prentice, Professor and Mrs C. W. R. Spedding, Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP, and Mrs Stanbrook, The Reverend A. K. and Mrs Swann, Mr and Mrs David Williams, Mr and Mrs Peter Wood, Mr J. B. Zochonis.

The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Households in Waiting were in attendance.

During the Banquet, The Queen gave the Toast to The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to which The President replied.

Detachments of The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard and the Household Cavalry, dismounted, were on duty.

The Orchestra of the Grenadier Guards, under the direction of Major D. R. Kimberley, and the Pipers of the 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, under the direction of Pipe Major J. Johnston, played selections of music during and after the Banquet.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief of the Intelligence Corps, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Brigadier M. J. D. Perrett-Young upon relinquishing his appointment as Director of the Corps and Brigadier B. A. H. Parritt upon assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon attended the première of Cinexsa Film Productions *Ability Is Where You Look For It* and viewed an exhibition sponsored by Opportunities for the Disabled, organized by the British Petroleum Company Ltd, at Britannic House, Moor Lane, EC2.

Major Justin Fenwick was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Thompson upon relinquishing command of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones upon assuming command.

The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

Sir Harry Trusted, QC, and Lady Trusted celebrate the seventieth anniversary of their marriage today

Birthdays today

Sir Edmund Bacon, 78; Major-General C. L. Firbank, 78; Sir Peter Kent, 68; Sir Robin McAlpine, 75; the Hon John Silkin, MP, 58; Captain O. M. Watts, 80.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, presides at Annual General meeting, Fishmongers Hall, 11, opens Eastway Sports Centre of the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority, Quarter Mile Lane, Leyton, 2.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Pioneer Corps, visits units in training, Salisbury Plain, 9.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends Church of England Children's Society centenary thanksgiving service, St Paul's Cathedral, 11.25.

Talks, lectures: "The role of the patron in Renaissance Art"; Diana Norman, National Gallery, 1; "The Academy", Professor Quentin Bell, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15: Lent lecture by the Right Rev E. Knapp-Fisher, Westminster Abbey, 12.30: Into the eighties, Blake Morrison, National Poetry Centre, 21 Earls Court Square, 7.30: The spirit of the nation, Fleet Street: Sir Larry Lamb, St Lawrence Jewry, 1.15

Lunchtime music: Concert by Mary Datchelor School, St Olave, Hart Street, 1.05, Janet Whiteside, Robert Ralph, Anthea Gifford, words and music, Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent, Highbury, 1.

Chairman of the GLC at reception in aid of Chiswick Family Rescue Appeal, County Hall, 6.30.

Memorial service: Queen Fredericka of the Hellenes, Greek Cathedral of St Sophia, Moscow Road, 6.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 17, 1956

Bonn, March 16.—According to *reports from Communist sources* which reached here today a bitter attack on Stalin was made by Mr Khrushchev in a three and a half hour speech to the security session of the recent congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in Moscow on February 25, the day before the congress ended. Mr Khrushchev is said to have painted a vivid picture of the regime of suspicion, fear and terror which prevailed under Stalin especially in his last years.

Royal Horticultural Society awards two gold medals

Big orchid display in spring show

By Our Horticulture Correspondent

The Royal Horticultural Society early spring show, camellia competition and rhododendron competition make a colourful display in the New Hall, Westminster, while the Old Hall is full of superb orchids staged by trade and amateurs at the British Orchid Growers' Show.

Two RHS gold medals have been awarded, one to South Down Nurseries, Redruth, the other to McBeans Orchids Ltd, Lewes.

South Down Nurseries have staged an excellent display of spring flowering trees, shrubs and bulbous plants to win their gold medal. Three magnolias are eye-catching, namely *Magnolia sprengeri* 'Diva', *M. sargentiana* 'Robusta' and *M. mollicomata*, all pink. These blend well with such shrubs as *Camellia* 'St Michael', deep pink, *Pieris* 'Flame of the Forest', parchment coloured, and *Corylopsis pauciflora*, pale green flowers on bare stems. Colourful collections of daffodils and tulips and the fascinating *Iris tuberosa*, with green, almost black tipped petals make ground cover.

McBeans were awarded their well-deserved gold medal for a very large display of impeccably staged orchids filling a stand the full width of the Old Hall. Their centrepiece is of a collection of paphiopedilums in shades of reds and yellows backed by the popular *Cymbidium* 'Fort George', one of the best green-flowered orchids with a slight fragrance, and other cymbidiums of similar colouring. Also staged are a large number of seedling crosses of odontoglossum and odontioda in many different colours.

A gold medal in the Lindley range was awarded to Butterfield's Nursery, Upper Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, for a collection of pleiones, ranging in colour from the white *Pleione* 'Snow White', yellow and white *P. forrestii*, pale magenta *P.* 'Stromboli', deep magenta *P. formosana* 'Oriental Legend', to the bicoloured *P.* 'Blush at Dawn'.

Although very many plants were submitted to the committees for awards, only the following were considered of sufficiently high standard for awards of merit: *Corylopsis platypetala*, lime-green, from Chelsea Physic Garden, London; *Galanthus plicatus* (subject to varietal name), white, from Mrs B. Chatto, Colchester; *Ranunculus ficaria* "Brazen Hussy", yellow, bronze leaves, from Mr C. Lloyd, Northiam; *Phalaenopsis lippeglut* "Ingrid", deep pink, Mr F. Hark, West Germany; *Saphrolaeliocattleya* Hazel Boyd "Frae", yellow, *Odontioda* Joes Drum "Mont Millais", mauve-purple, *Odontoglossum* Ostro "St. Helier", wine-red, and *Cymbidium* Petit Port "Mont Millais", ivory-white, all from Mr E. E. Young, Jersey; *Phalaenopsis* Solvang "Portland Star", cream, from Keith Andrews Orchids Ltd., Plush; *Wilsonara* Ravissement "Princesse Pobara", brown and yellow, from Vacherot & Lecoufle, Paris; and *Paphiopedilum vanda* M. Pearman "Gold Coast", white spotted pink, Mr J. K. Hughes, California.

The Camellia Competition (for plants grown under glass or in the open) is very well supported by exhibitors, who managed to avoid cold weather damage yesterday by cutting their blooms on Monday evening. Leading prizewinners include Mr R. Strauss, Ardingly, who won the class 1 for any three varieties of *Camellia japonica*, class 15 for any three single-flowered varieties, class 29 for any three rose-formed and/or formal double varieties, and class 33 for any six varieties of mixed types of *Camillia japonica*.

The Rhododendron Competition classes also contained many entries of excellent blooms. In the main classes Mr E. A. T. Wright, Arduaine, won the prize for four species and Lord Aberconway and The National Trust, Bodnant, received first prize for three variants of *Rhododendron arboreum*, also first prize for three hybrids.

Leading prizewinners in the British Orchid Show competitive classes were:

Mr E. E. Young, Jersey, McBean Cymbidium Perpetual Challenge Trophy for 12 cymbidiums and Lyoth Perpetual Challenge Trophy for six odontoglossums: Mr J. Rigg, Rochdale, Sidney Thoro Perpetual Challenge Trophy for group of orchids and ornamental plants: Mr A. V. Dobell, Barking, McBean Orchids Trophy for six cymbidiums: Mr F. R. Haynes, Derby, R. & E. Ratcliffe Trophy for six paphiopedilums: Mr J. Kollcher, Orpington, Wyld Court Orchids Trophy for six orchids: Mr R. B. Redman, Oakham, Burnham Nurseries Perpetual Challenge Trophy for three phalaenopsis or allied genera: and Miss M. Diluilo, London, Armstrong and Brown Trophy for three miniature cymbidiums.

The shows are open today from 10 am to 5 pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. H. Meyrick and Miss S. D. Blackman
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Sir Thomas Meyrick, Bt, and the late Joyce Lady Meyrick, of 40 Otho Court, Brentford and Gumfreston, Tenby, and Sandra, only daughter of Mr and Mrs L. V. Blackman, of Lewes, Sussex.

Mr J. A. Crill and Miss S. C. MacKichan
The engagement is announced between John, son of Commander C. G. Crill, RN (ret) and Mrs Crill, of Northwich, Cheshire, and Shiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. D. S. MacKichan, of Cooden, East Sussex.

Mr R. A. Gins and Miss S. R. Cowan
The engagement is announced between Roger Allan, son of the late Sandford Gins and of Mrs Margaret Gins, of New York, and Sheila, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Bailey Cowan, of Chiddingfold, Surrey.

Mr P. Hunter and Miss H. A. Carline
The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Dr and Mrs Gordon Hunter, of Donnington, Newbury, Berkshire, and Hermione, only daughter of the late Mr Richard Carline and of Mrs Carline, of Hampstead, London.

Mr J. E. Morecraft and Miss A. Wells
The engagement is announced between John E. Morecraft, of St Albans, and Ann Wells, MA, daughter of Dr and Mrs C. E. C. Wells, of Cardiff.

Commander J. Penny, RN (ret) and Miss Z. M. Baal
The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr and Mrs F. C. Penny, of St Ives, Cambridgeshire, and Zöe Margaret, daughter of the late Mr Keith Baal and of Deputy Mrs Anne Baal, of St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Mr J. P. Trigg and Miss J. M. Woolfenden
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. R. Trigg, and Jacqueline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Woolfenden, both of Woldingham, Surrey.

Mr T. N. H. Bennett and Miss C. L. Bryce-Curtis
The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of Captain J. W. H. Bennett, DSC, RN, and Mrs Bennett, of Farleigh Plain, Hinton Charterhouse, Bath, and Charlotte, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs P. J. Bryce-Curtis, of Harvest Hill Farm, Blackboys, Sussex.

Mr P. M. Dowling and Miss M. W. Scott
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs M. L. Dowling, of Bickley, Kent, and Marjorie, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. W. Scott, of Rossett Green, Harrogate.

Mr R. J. Hare and Miss C. P. Shelmerdine
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of the Rev F. R. K. and Mrs Hare, of Buxton Vicarage, Buxton, Norfolk, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. T. Shelmerdine, of Driftway Farm, Felbrigg, Norfolk.

Mr W. G. A. Jenkin and Miss J. M. R. Jackson
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs W. H. Jenkin, of The Dennis, St Anthony-in-Meneage, Cornwall, and Jillian, younger daughter of Major-General and Mrs A. J. Jackson, of Roughwood House, Fleet, Hampshire.

Mr H. C. Pasha and Miss N. J. Goldwater
The engagement is announced between Harold, son of Mr and Mrs Jack Pasha, of London, W1, and Nicola, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Goldwater, of London SW7.

Mr M. N. Pountain, RA and Miss J. M. Johnston
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Wing Commander and Mrs Stuart Pountain, of Dereham, Norfolk, and Julia, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Duncan Johnston, of 93 Drayton Gardens, London SW10.

Marriage

Mr T. W. G. Saunt and Miss M. B. Valentine
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 14, between Mr Thomas William Gatty Saunt, elder son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Saunt, of Henfield, Sussex, and Miss Maria Balmain Valentine, younger daughter of the late Sir Alec Valentine and of Lady Valentine, of Etchingham, Sussex.

Luncheons

HM Government
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host at a luncheon at Dover House, Whitehall, yesterday to mark the visit to London of the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Rev William Johnston.

GLC
The Chairman of the GLC was host at a council day luncheon at the County Hall yesterday. The guests included:
The High Commissioner for Zimbabwe, Mr J. G. Bally, Sir Christopher Higgins, Mr Eric Kirk, Mr L. A. Roche, the Rev Lord Sandford, Mr Lionel Scott, Mr Roy Sinclair and Mr Alaric Toy.

Royal Society of Chemistry
The President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Professor Sir Ewart Jones, was host at a luncheon party held at 30 Russell Square yesterday. The guests included:
Mr David Howell, MP, Mr David Crouch, MP, the Hon Archie Hamilton, MP, Mr John Lee, MP, Dr P. J. V. Aglius, Mr A. N. Brown, Professor J. J. G. Cadogan, Dr A. A. L. Challis, Dr I. A. Gray, Mr B. A. Henman, Dr R. E. Parker, Dr A. Robertson, Mr C. N. Thompson and Professor G. N. Walton.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, was host at a dinner held at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of M John Paleocrassas, Greek Alternate Minister of Coordination.

Anglo-Israel Association
The Ambassador of Israel was guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Anglo-Israel Association held at the Savoy Hotel last night. Baroness Elliot of Harwood was in the chair and the guest speakers were Mr Shimon Peres and Mr James Prior, MP.

University College London Law Society
The annual dinner of the University College London Law Society took place at the Law Society yesterday. The Attorney-General and Lady Havers, Lord Lloyd of Hampstead, QC, and Lady Lloyd, Mr Matthew Paris, MP and Mr W. Holland, president of the society, were among those present.

Knighthood for judge

A knighthood is to be conferred on Mr Justice Warner on his appointment as a Judge of the High Court.

Latest appointments

Chairman of ITN

Lord Buxton, chief executive of the Anglia Television group, has been appointed chairman of Independent Television News Ltd.

Other appointments include:
Mr Ansel Z. Harris to be appointed honorary treasurer of Oxfam.

Roman bronze coins go to US collector for £15,000

By Frances Gibb

A fine collection of Roman bronze coins or sestertii was bought almost entirely by a New Jersey dealer at Christie's yesterday who was bidding on behalf of an American industrialist starting a private collection.

The coins, which consisted mainly of the 12 Caesars, were in unusually good condition and the eighty lots fetched nearly £15,000.

The chief buyer, Dr Arnold Saslow of Rare Coins and Classical Arts Ltd paid £680 (estimate £220 to £260) for a sestertius of Galba, AD68-69, and £430 (estimate £300 to £350) for a sestertius of Didia Clara, wife of Didius Julianus.

But the top price of £1,300 was paid by Baldwin, the London dealer, for a sestertius of Hadrian AD117-38 which had been estimated to fetch £450-£500.

Among other coins in the sale, which totalled £63,322 with 4 per cent unsold, was a denarius of Augustus, 27BC-AD14, with a man presenting a child to Augustus on the reverse, which went for £1,300 (estimate £500 to £750), also to Baldwin.

In the gold coins, a solidus of Constantine the Great, AD 307-337337 from Thessalonica, fetched £1,100 (estimate £700 to £800).

At Sotheby's yesterday, an unusual pair of Qianlong hawks standing 10in high, splashed in brilliant yellow, pink and blue enamels on the base, made the *top price of £9,000* in the sale of fine Chinese export porcelain.

The price, paid anonymously by an American buyer, was as estimated. Also in the sale was an attractive famille rose dinner service, again Qianlong, each piece decorated with summer flowers chiefly in enamels, which made £5,000, again as estimated, paid by Heirloom and Howard, London dealers.

Altogether the 259 lots brought in £141,355 with 6.6 per cent unsold.

In the second day of Sotheby's printed books sale, Marlborough Rare Books, London dealers, paid £3,500 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) for an nineteenth-century book on furniture. The work was *The Universal System of Household Furniture*, a first edition copy, by William Ince and John Mayhew, thought to have been printed in 1762.

A first edition of *A Collection of Designs for Household Furniture and Interior Decoration* by George Smith, printed in 1808, made £1,700 (£800 to £1,200). The two days sale totalled £75,701 with 3.7 per cent unsold.

Church news

Latest appointments include:

The Rev P. R. Doe, priest-in-charge, Sutton with Bignor and Barlavington, diocese of Chichester, to be Vicar of Warnham, same diocese.

The Rev C. Finch, Rector, Little Bowden, diocese of Leicester, to be Vicar, Evington, same diocese.

The Rev R. Thorpe Fleming, Vicar Ancroft with Scremerston, diocese of Newcastle, to be Vicar Longhirst with Hebron, same diocese.

The Rev D. R. Green, Vicar, Henham and Elsenham, diocese of Chelmsford, also to be Colchester archdeaconry development adviser in evangelism.

The Rev D. Goldspink, Rector, Mulford with Rushmere, diocese of Norwich, to be asst chaplain Strangeways Prison, diocese of Manchester.

The Rev A. G. M. Hargreaves, editorial staff of the "Jerusalem Bible", to be Vicar, Marden, diocese of Canterbury.

The Rev D. G. Humphries to be asst curate, Bishop's Cleeve, Cheltenham, diocese of Gloucester.

The Rev M. C. Judge, curate, Seaford, diocese of Chichester, to be Rector, Hurstpierpoint, same diocese.

The Rev R. A. Kempster, chaplain, Guy's Hospital, to be chaplain, National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, diocese of London.

The Rev J. M. Langford, part-time curate St Hilda's, South Shields and part-time industrial chaplain in the Northumbrian Industrial Mission to be priest-in-charge, Conventional District St James, Owton Manor, diocese of Durham.

The Rev N. F. Lempriere, Rector, Denton with South Heighton and Tarring Neville, diocese of Chichester, to be Rector of Thakeham, same diocese.

The Rev M. Lewis to be curate, St John's, Burgess Hill, diocese of Chichester.

The Rev I. Mallin, curate of Tamworth, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar, Penkhull, same diocese.

The Rev A. Makel, priest-in-charge of Scotton with Northorpe and industrial chaplain Scunthorpe, diocese of Lincoln, to be Rector, Epworth and Wroot, same diocese.

Latest wills

Miss Henrietta Barnes Stubbs, of Bournemouth, left estate valued at £99,963 net. She left £4,300 and some effects to personal legatees and the residue equally between *the National Children's Home*, Cancer Research Campaign and RNID.

Lady Warter, of Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, left estate valued at £529,813 net. She left £10,000 each to the British Heart Foundation, National Society for Cancer Relief, Cancer Research Campaign, Institute of Cancer Research, and Leukaemia Research Fund.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Allen, Mr James Albert Victor, of Terenure, Dublin, retired commercial traveller, estate in England, Wales and Eire £147,333
Bowler, Ethel Gwendoline, of Swindon, Wiltshire, intestate £155,477
Horton, Mrs Ruth Annie, of Shrawley, Hereford and Worcestershire £3,008,025
Hosier, Mrs Emily Alice, of Devizes, Wiltshire .. £163,607
Leat, Miss Marion May Joy, of Weston-super-Mare, Avon £166,704
Raffael, Mrs Germaine, of Paddington, London, .. £130,704
Ridley, Mrs Lily Eliza, of Kew Gardens, Surrey £186,075
Robson, Patricia Daisy Evans, of Guildford, Surrey .. £131,285

Science report

Astronomy: Enigma of star persists

By the staff of *Nature*

Radio-observations of the star called SS433 have confirmed that the object is indeed shooting out two streams of material in opposite directions, but have not advanced understanding of this bizarre object. That is the chief conclusion to be drawn from a report by Dr B. M. Hjellming and Dr K. J. Johnston of their observations of SS433 with the instrument known as the Very Large Array, a coordinated system of 22 movable radio-telescopes now operating in New Mexico.

Although SS433 has been observed, off and on, for some decades, its peculiar properties were recognized only in 1978, on the basis of spectroscopic measurements with the Anglo-Australian Telescope. These and later observations showed that the star is ejecting two narrow pencils of gas in exactly opposite directions, and moving at 26 per cent of the velocity of light (or 78,000 km a second).

The most widely accepted explanation of this phenomenon, unknown elsewhere in the galaxy, is that the source of the two jets of gas is a compact neutron star lying close to a normal star, most probably very much like the sun. Neutron stars, first recognized by the pulsating radio signals from some of them, are thought to be one of the end points of stellar evolution and to be formed in supernova explosions.

On this view of SS433, the neutron star's gravitational attraction is continually pulling material from the surface of its normal companion, in the process surrounding itself with a flat saucer-shaped volume of gas, presumed to be rotating rapidly above the neutron star. By some unknown mechanism, this accretion disc appears to accelerate some of its own substance to a speed of 78,000 km a second, pumping it out in two narrow beams on either side.

This description has been pieced together from optical and X-ray observations of SS433 in the past two years. The two pencil beams are not fixed in direction but instead are wobbling, sweeping over a conical surface once every 164 days. It is not known why the velocity of the opposing beams is as constant as it appears to be, nor why the beams are as narrow as observed.

Part of the objective of the radio observations now reported has been to search for evidence of magnetic forces that might account for some of the peculiar properties of the star. In the event, while systematic patterns of magnetic forces are inferred from the observations, they are thought to be too small to have much influence on the phenomenon.

The most striking feature of the observations is that the intensity of radio emission varies substantially in as little as a week. Because the telescope array can pick out features much smaller than a second of arc, it has also been possible to follow the movement of patches of luminosity, thought to correspond to the movement of blobs of gas ejected from the star, for periods of 200 days or so.

The distance of SS433 from the solar system is estimated, on the basis of the radio observations, to be 5,100 parsecs (16,600 light years). The beams of gas extend outwards from the central star for 600,000 million kilometres before petering out in the cloud of gas representing the accumulation of previous ejections from SS433. But the mechanism of this process is as obscure as ever.

Source: *Nature*, March 12, 1981, vol 290, p 100.
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Harrow School

Entrance scholarships and exhibitions have been awarded to the following:

SCHOLARSHIPS: R. A. Dyman, Ludgrove, Wokingham, Berkshire (Head Master's); R. C. Goodyear, St John's School, Northwood, Middlesex (Head Master's); A. Butler, Dulwich College Preparatory School, Alleyne Park, London, SE21 (L. C. Wilson); M. R. Middleton, Brambletye, East Grinstead, Sussex (L. C. Wilson); K. Nasir, Sussex House, 68 Cadogan Square, London SW1 (L. C. Wilson); N. A. J. Hall, Bramcote School, Scarborough, Yorkshire (Clifford Smith); D. I. H. Nichols, St Edmund's School, Hindhead, Surrey (Toby Green).

EXHIBITIONS: A. N. Robb, Aberdour School, Burgh Heath, Tadworth, Surrey (Nivison); S. P. O'Riordan, St Martin's School, Northwood, Middlesex (Bowen); J. L. McCurrach, Holmwood House School, Lexden, Colchester, Essex (William Woods); J. F. Grenier, Milbourne Lodge Senior School, Esher, Surrey (Innes Hopkins); A. Rance, Milbourne Lodge Senior School, Esher, Surrey (Shepherd Churchill). MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP: D. H. Ricketts, The Beacon, Chesham Bois, Amersham, Buckinghamshire (Basil Umney).

Wycombe Abbey School

The Wycombe Abbey Open Scholarship has been awarded to Catherine Eden (Ravenswood School, Tiverton).

The William Johnston Yapp Scholarship has been awarded to Fanny Howell (Windlesham House, Washington).

The Crosthwaite Scholarship has been awarded to Louise Clatworthy (Wycombe Abbey and St Theresa's Convent, Effingham).

The Walpole Scholarship has been awarded to Katherine Trinder (Windlesham House, Washington).

Exhibitions have been awarded to Cecelia Hamilton (Island School, Hongkong), Olivia Lacey (South Hampstead High Junior School), Joanne Stephenson (High March, Beaconsfield), Laura Pulay (Wycombe Abbey and Francis Holland School), Susanna Hogan (Maltmans Green, Gerrards Cross) and Lucinda Smith (Packwood Haugh, Ruyton XI Towns).

The Whitelaw Scholarship (for music) has been awarded to Susanna Hogan (Maltmans Green, Gerrards Cross).

Music Exhibitions have been awarded to Anna Callund (Godstowe School), Rachel Curtin (Wycombe Abbey and The Banda School, Nairobi), and Nicola Neary (Wycombe Abbey and St Swithun's School, Winchester).

Sixth-form Scholarships have been awarded to Melissa Clarke, Sara Hawley, Camilla Shand and Rebecca Youngman.

Mr Gordon Adam, MA, LL.B.(Cantab), a member of Wycombe Abbey School Council, takes over as chairman from Mr William Barnes, MA(Cantab), this month. Mr Barnes has been chairman since 1971 and has now come to the end of his 10 years of office.

OBITUARY

CHARLES WREY GARDINER

Poet, editor and publisher

Charles Wrey Gardiner—poet, editor, publisher—died on March 13 in hospital, aged 79.

For most he will be remembered both as the editor of *Poetry Quarterly*—the leading journal of the Neo-Romantic movement in wartime and in the early 1950s—and as the founder of the Grey Walls Press, first in his seventeenth-century house in Billericay, then at Vernon Place, Bloomsbury and later in Crown Passage, Pall Mall, London.

This business, originally administered by poets (Nicholas Moore, Roland Gant and Fred Marnau) later amalgamated with Peter Baker's Falcon Press by which it received an injection of capital but was later overtaken by bankruptcy. Among other interests, the house represented the imaginative work of anarchists and pacifists such as Alex Comfort, Kenneth Patchen, Henry Treece (whose beliefs did not keep him from serving in the RAF), David Gascoyne, Kathleen Raine, George Woodcock and others.

Charles Wrey Gardiner's own work included a number of autobiographies which present a vivid picture of poets' pubs and drinking clubs in the 1940s and 1950s, and several volumes of verse which suggest the lyrical workings of an almost solipsist personality. A small booklet of his poems was published by Enitharmon Press just before Christmas.

He leaves behind him unpublished the last of his autobiographies entitled *The Octopus of Love*, dealing with his extensive amorous life and his work as editor and publisher.

Diana, related to Virginia Woolf and widow of MacLaren Ross, was his wife and predeceased him by a couple of years.

His career as a publisher and poet was somewhat late in manifesting itself. At Exeter College, Oxford, he read History: but left before taking his degree after marrying his cousin Betty. Then followed a peripatetic period by land and sea. With a caravan, he toured the West Country with his bride. Later with Betty divorced, he went to Paris and married his second wife Susanne, herself a pianist. He lived much on board his yacht with or without her, in the Mediterranean cruising about the off-shore waters of France and Spain. An atmospheric account of his life up to this marine period is found in his first autobiography *The Colonies of Heaven*.

The French poets, and particularly Paul Valery, now activated his own muse, and little by little he began to publish verse, which led him to *Poetry Quarterly*.

The second section of his life-story next appeared under the title *The Once-Loved God*, in which the literary and artistic figures of wartime London flit through his otherwise much inward-turned prose. It is probably in his autobiographies, with their vivid spy-hole vignettes on the personalities of the time—the denizens of the Mandrake and Fitzrovia—that he will live, rather than as a poet, though Herbert Read spoke of the Byzantine nature of his verse with its strangely non-realistic portrayal of reality.

The last published volume of his life-story, *The Answer to Life is No*, is an indication of the assertive pessimism of the Manichean lyrical elegist.

MR JAMES DOW

Mr James Dow, formerly managing editor of *The Sunday Times*, has died aged 71 in Florence, his retirement home. He was an outstanding example of the journalist who, though he may never figure in the annual awards for excellence, by his skill and influence makes excellence in others possible.

Like many another journalistic Scot, James Blyth Dow took up his craft in Dundee and (as he was amused to admit) first exercised it on those romances for the lovelorn for which that city was noted. He quickly graduated to the wider world of newspapers, in turn becoming reporter, feature-writer, and editor of a variety of Scottish papers.

RAF service took him to Italy (where he met his charming second wife, Alda, who survives him). He spent a short time there after the war, as a film writer in Rome, before making his way to Fleet Street via Glasgow and the *Daily Record*. He wrote and edited for the *Sunday Chronicle* and the *Sunday Graphic*, at a time when many newspapers still flourished whether or not they prospered.

His transition to that mysterious blend of editing and administration implied in the title "managing editor" began in 1953, when he joined *The Sunday Times* as it was about *to embark on its celebrated* period of expansion, first under H. V. Hodson as editor, then—most signally—under C. D. (Sir Denis) Hamilton, and finally Harold Evans. From production editor "Jimmy" Dow became managing editor in 1964 (in truth one of three with the title, an inconvenience he dealt with on the first day by instructing his secretary that the word "joint" should not appear on any of *his* letters). From then until his retirement in 1972 Dow exercised an increasingly beneficial influence on the conduct of the paper, and particularly the life of the paper within the office. He was a mainstay of the editor.

His quiet assertiveness with others (he was always the first to hear his own voice rising, and so moderate it), his ability to stimulate or to console, his availability to all who needed him—these qualities made him (in the epithet so pleasingly applied to him in the *Sunday Times* memoir, *The Pearl of Days*) "the general favourite as the general friend".

Those who worked outside the paper, as for example the late Patrick Campbell (Lord Glenavy), found in him the essential link with the office in spirit and practice. Dow's only signed contribution, after his retirement, was an appreciation of another celebrated "outdoor worker", the golfing correspondent, Henry Longhurst.

Indeed, at times he would reflect, with just a touch of rue, on "the days when I used to be a journalist", and recall assignments from his popular-paper days. Their true moral was often that a writer could be effective and still retain the good opinion of those he wrote about, even those notoriously "difficult". Evelyn Waugh was one example, Noël Coward another (singling him out from the crowd on some public occasion with the welcoming cry, "Jimmy, my shadow!").

After resuming his residence in Italy Dow customarily limited his journeys to England so as to coincide (it was said) with Goodwood. He forbade himself the office, surely aware that those still there did not need his presence to measure their works by his standards.

PROFESSOR COLIN GRANT

A colleague writes:

Professor Colin King Grant, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Durham from 1959, died on February 26. He was 56.

Born in 1924, he studied at Clayesmore School and at Wadham College, Oxford, where he took a First Class in P.P.E. in 1944. After three years as Assistant Lecturer at the University of Glasgow he spent ten years as Lecturer at Nottingham University. While at Durham, he was Visiting Professor on two occasions: once at the University of Maryland and once at the University of Bergen.

His years at Durham saw the building up of the Department of Philosophy to its present size, the establishing of Joint Honours with other Departments, and the making available of courses in the Department to undergraduates from all parts of the University. He served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts for two years, and his contributions to the Senate of the University were characteristic of himself and valued by his colleagues.

Grant was a starkly and at times disconcertingly honest man: what he thought, he said, and he saw no virtue in saying what he did not think. For him compromise with dishonesty was a surrender of values that any University was instituted to defend. The compromise might be with ideologies that subordinate the pursuit of truth to political evaluation: or with views of education that make it an initiation into social relationships rather than a laborious cultivation of critical intelligence. In these and other forms, wherever they were found, were targets of his attack. So was the vocabulary in which they revealed themselves (a favourite abomination was describing a University as "a community").

His generous, exigent teaching, and his practical kindness to newly-arrived colleagues were not interrupted by the painful and partly disabling sciatica that he faced for years with his own blend of courage and realism. Last summer he suffered a stroke, but was mending enough to look forward to some lecturing in Easter Term. A second stroke in February led to death within a few days: his family, his University and his friends are the poorer for it.

He married in 1961 Dr Alison Stoddart Wallace, by whom he leaves two sons.

BILL HOPKINS

Bill Hopkins, the composer, died suddenly on March 10; he was 37. Born in Prestbury, Cheshire, he studied at Oxford and in Paris, with Olivier Messiaen and Jean Barraqué, of whom the latter was a particular influence on his musical thinking. He accepted Barraqué's example of dense thought propelled along strong, non-returning lines, and he accepted too Barraqué's insistence that music must be honest to the deepest workings of the mind.

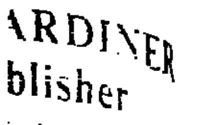
Being thus demanding of himself he produced no more than a dozen compositions, including *Sensation* for soprano and four instruments (1965), in which Rimbaud's ecstasies are drawn towards the chill vision of Beckett; three books of *Etudes en série* for piano (1965-72); and a quartet *En attendant* (1976-77). He was also a conscientious writer on music, translator and teacher: since 1979 he had been lecturer in music at Newcastle University.

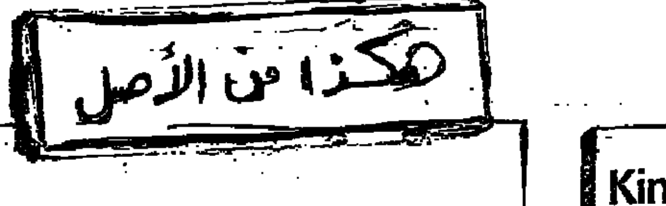
Bill was a being who inspired at once affection for a generous personality and respect for a searching intelligence. He will be remembered with gratitude and regret by his many friends, by his pupils and by all who know or will know his music.

His wife Clare and their twin sons survive him.

Mrs Beatrice Eileen Purdy died on March 12 at the age of 87. As Eileen Armstrong she won a silver medal for high diving at the Olympic Games at Antwerp in 1920.

Mr William Desmond Carew, who has died in Cambridge, New Zealand, at the age of 81, joined the Colonial Service in 1921 and was Chief Justice of Tonga from 1948 to 1955.





THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 487.6 up 7.8
FT Gilts 69.82 down 0.10

■ **Sterling**
\$2.2490 up 1.10 cents
Index 99.9 up 0.4

■ **Dollar**
Index 99.1 down 0.2
DM 2.0867 down 48 pts

■ **Gold**
\$492.50 down \$5

■ **Money**
3 month sterling 12¹³⁄₁₆-12⅝
3 month Euro-\$ 14⅞-15⅛
6 month Euro-\$ 14¹¹⁄₁₆-14¹³⁄₁₆

IN BRIEF

Kuwaitis raise stake in Savoy

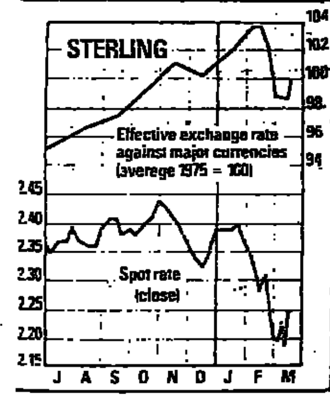
The Kuwait Investment Office announced yesterday that it spent £210,000 adding 127,500 shares to its 34.1 per cent "A" class stake in the Savoy the day after Sir Charles Forte launched his £58m takeover bid for the hotel group.

Sir Charles' Trusthouse Forte empire hopes to win control of the Savoy group at a meeting of "A" class shareholders which together control 51 per cent of the total votes. The Kuwaitis have already said they will accept his offer. Trusthouse is unlikely to add to its 88,000 "A" shares because under the rules of the voting his own stake is effectively disenfranchised.

He has already asked Sir Hugh Wontner, Savoy chairman to call special meetings of the "A" and "B" class shareholders in order to put his offer to the vote. But Sir Hugh, who has dismissed the takeover as wholly unwelcome and totally unacceptable will today refuse to call the meetings.

THF is offering 84 of its own shares or £165 cash for every 100 Savoy A shares, and five of its shares or £9.75 for each B" share.

Sterling stronger



Sterling was the main beneficiary of a weaker dollar, touching \$2.26 before falling back to close more than a cent higher at \$2.2490. It also strengthened against continental currencies.

Uranium settlement

Westinghouse and the Tennessee Valley Authority have reached what looks likely to be a final settlement in their litigation with uranium suppliers, including six members of the Rio Tinto-Zinc group. The defendants will sell Westinghouse nine million pounds of uranium between 1981 and 1985 and will pay the company \$39m in cash. The valley authority will receive \$2m.

Gas pricing call

Britain has urged the EEC Commission to keep up the pressure on the United States Government to bring to an end the dual pricing of gas which has given American chemical and textile industries a competitive advantage in EEC markets.

Shipbuilding slump

Output from Britain's shipyards last year sank to 427,000 tons, its lowest level for almost 20 years, according to Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

SDR rates

The dollar rate against the special drawing right was 1.23590 while the £ was 0.548193.

Pressure on Fed to introduce tighter money targets

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 17

American interest rates fell further today as it became clear that an increasingly bitter confrontation is developing between some influential Reagan Administration officials who want the Fed to signal a new and still tighter money supply course.

The rate for federal funds, the key short-term rate most directly influenced by the Fed's market operations, fell to 14¼ per cent from around 14⅞ per cent yesterday. Citibank and Morgan Guaranty joined other big banks in dropping its prime rate to 17½ per cent from 18 per cent. The declining rate is providing support to the stock markets.

The Fed's actions in the money markets, resulting in lower rates, appear to be stimulated by a softening of the economy and by the belief that the contraction of the money aggregates in recent months was greater than was necessary to secure the Fed's annual money supply growth targets.

Some Fed economists expect the economy to slow further and anticipate that the decline in loan demand will ensure that money growth remains on the Fed's desired course without it having to drain further reserves from the banking system.

The Fed also announced that industrial output declined on a seasonally adjusted basis by 0.5 per cent in February, after a gain of 0.4 per cent in January.

This is the first monthly drop in industrial output in seven months. A sharp fall in production of durable goods for the construction and home industries was the main cause of the decline. There was also a slight gain last month in personal income.

Some administration officials are worried by what they see as the "passive" approach of the Fed, under which it is willing to allow broad economic trends to influence money growth and interest rate trends, so that the money supply tends to contract sharply when economic activity slows and tends to expand sharply on stronger general economic activity.

Such an attitude in the opinion of the officials tends to add to market uncertainties, fails to strengthen confidence in long-term declines in inflation and leads to the destabilizing course of interest rates that was seen last year.

In 1980 the prime rate soared in the first quarter to 20 per cent, plunged in the second quarter to 10¾ per cent and then rose in the second half of the year to a record 21 per cent.

The sources indicated that the Administration has been repeatedly advocating to the Fed that a new statement should be issued announcing lower money supply growth targets and a clear determination to secure a smooth path of money supply expansion.

The proponents of this view seem to have convinced President Reagan that this will strengthen the economy and lead swiftly to lower interest rates.

These officials argue that the new Fed statements and policies would very quickly provide a new sense of confidence in the markets to achieve price stability.

This confidence would tend to stimulate savings and at the same time it would tend to reduce the inflation premium that is now evident in long-term yields.

Elimination of this interest rate premium in interest rates would stimulate investment and so promote greater economic growth.

The enhanced savings stimulated by lower inflation expectations would finance increased private sector investment.

For these reasons the officials believe firmly that tighter money policies today will stimulate the economy in a sound and non-inflationary manner.

Wall Street down: On Wall Street yesterday the Dow Jones industrials average closed 10.26 points down at 992.53. The \$-SDR was 1.23590. The £ was 0.548193.

Royal Bank and Standard merge

By Ronald Pullen

Terms for the biggest realignment in British banking for more than a decade were announced yesterday.

Standard Chartered Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland have reached agreement on their merger, and Lloyds Bank launched a takeover for Lloyds and Scottish, the largest independent finance house in Britain.

Standard Chartered is offering one of its shares plus 50p in cash for every five Royal Bank shares, and a further £760,000 cash for the two classes of preference shares.

With Standard's shares closing 53p lower at 644p, the terms value the Royal Bank at £312m or almost 139p a share, about 50p more than the shares were trading at on Monday before it was announced that the two sides were in talks.

Both Lord Barber, chairman of Standard Chartered, and Sir Michael Herries, Royal Bank's chairman, stressed that this was not a takeover but a merger, and that the Royal Bank would retain its separate identity.

Lord Barber said that his experience in politics had taught him to be sensitive about Scottish opinion, although the first indications from Scotland are that the deal has upset nationalist feelings.

After the merger, the combined group will have balance sheet footings of £19,000m and shareholders' funds approaching £1,000m. This will put the group on a par with Midland and Lloyds in the world league, although still well short of Barclays and National Westminster.


Lord Barber, right, extends a hand to Sir Michael Herries after the merger had been agreed in London yesterday.

Both sides yesterday emphasized that the two banks were complementary. Lord Barber said that it would have taken Standard Chartered years to build up a comprehensive United Kingdom retail network and it would have been just as difficult for the Royal Bank to build up its overseas presence.

"The two would be a near perfect fit," he added. Neither side however seemed keen to expand on their plans for the expected push into retail banking in England.

The Bank of England has raised no objections to the link-up and Lord Barber argued that there was no case for the deal to be referred to the Office of Fair Trading.

Sir Michael Herries said that the move had not been prompted by fears of a bid from another quarter, despite much speculation in Royal Bank share over the last year.

Announcing the merger terms, Standard Chartered said that its pre-tax profits last year had risen from £169.8m to £232m and the dividend would rise by a quarter to 32.5p net.

Lloyds Bank wins control of HP group

By Our Financial Staff

Lloyds Bank moved swiftly to secure full ownership of Lloyds and Scottish, Britain's largest independent hire-purchase group. It launched a 200p a share offer for the 60.7 per cent of the equity it does not already own, immediately after Standard Chartered and Royal Bank announced terms of their agreed merger.

The move will cost Lloyds £145m and puts a price tag of around £240m on the whole group.

Lloyds has long been rumoured to be interested in taking over Lloyds and Scottish to give it the same all-round exposure to the hire-purchase and leasing markets that the other clearing banks enjoy. The catalyst has been the Standard/Royal Bank link-up.

With a heavy involvement already in the hire-purchase market through Standard's subsidiary, Chartered Trust, it comes as no surprise that the two banks have declared that "they will enter negotiations with Lloyds Bank in good faith for the sale, on an arm's length basis, of Royal Bank's 39.3 per cent shareholding".

A rapid stockmarket operation before lunch yesterday took the Lloyds holding up to 49.9 per cent. With Morgan Grenfell, an associate of Lloyds, purchasing another 0.3 per cent of Lloyds and Scottish equity, Lloyds now has a controlling interest.

A further 1 per cent of L and S's equity is controlled by trustees of Lloyds Bank pension schemes.

There was no immediate response from Standard/Royal Bank as to whether the terms were acceptable but it seems a near certainty that the two will agree in return for Lloyds itself agreeing to the merger in respect of its 16.3 per cent holding in the Royal Bank of Scotland.

With all the big finance houses now controlled by the clearing banks, there was some stockmarket speculation that the smaller groups would be attractive to other bidders with Wagon Finance, Provident Finance and FNFC all putting on a few pence.

Financial Editor, page 19

Support scheme for ICL hits snags

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

A last-minute hitch has developed in drawing up a plan for the future of ICI, Britain's remaining independent manufacturer of large computer systems.

One theory is that a scheme supported by the Department of Industry and involving some form of direct government aid, has run into opposition at Cabinet level.

The stock market appears to be backing a theory that ICL's negotiations for a largely private sector solution to its liquidity problems have been upset at the eleventh hour by the appearance of a potential bidder.

ICL's share price, which collapsed after the group disclosed first-quarter losses of more than £20m in February, has been actively supported this week.

The price improved by a further 3p to 45p yesterday on speculation that a bidder was about to emerge.

The names of three possible contenders were mentioned—Philips, the Dutch electrical giant; Siemens, the West German electronics group, and Nixdorf, a West German office computer business. Herr Heinz Nixdorf, the chairman, held a stake in ICL at one time.

Outside the stock market City followers of the electrical business and within the industry felt that an outright bid, either from a British company like GEC or a foreign group was unlikely, although the possibility of a business like Philips participating in a refinancing package was not ruled out.

Others in the industry believe ICL's difficulties have been caused by its failure to shift its products towards the smaller computers now in demand.

Last year the group suffered a cash outflow of just under £100m. With losses now mounting, the balance sheet is clearly in need of support.

The Government is obviously anxious to ensure that such support is forthcoming while maintaining its political position of non-intervention.

Auditor pays £400,000 to Pentos

By Catherine Gunn

An ex gratia payment of £400,000 is being made to Pentos, the publishing and engineering group, by its auditor, Neville Russell, the chartered accountancy firm. The payment is in respect of a review of Caplan Profile carried out by Neville Russell for Pentos before it bought Caplan for £7m of shares in August, 1979.

Discrepancies in the Caplan accounts and profit forecast to end-August, 1979, were discovered by Pentos after the purchase. Pentos is suing Malvern & Co, Caplan's former auditor, and Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank, concerning the asset valuation and profit forecast made prior to the acquisition of Caplan.

The case is due before the High Court in the second quarter of 1982. Pentos values its claim at £3.5m. Last year the Caplan family agreed to pay Pentos £350,000 over two years.

A spokesman for the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales yesterday described the £400,000 payment by Neville Russell as "certainly one of the biggest ex gratia payments" ever made by an accountancy firm.

"On the purely practical level it's far easier to settle for some amount than to go through the uncertainties and costs of litigation", he said.

Caplan made less than £1m for the year to end-August 1979, against the £1.4m profit forecast, and the net tangible assets were £959,000 below Pentos' expectations.

Neville Russell has disclaimed all liability over the Caplan episode. It is to continue as Pentos' auditor. A spokesman for the accountancy firm yesterday would make no comment on the ex gratia payment.

Sir Ronald McIntosh rejects Fisons post

By Rosemary Unsworth

Sir Ronald McIntosh who was due to succeed Sir George Burton as chairman of Fisons, the troubled chemicals and pharmaceutical group, has decided not to take up the appointment.

But Sir Ronald will remain as a director. Sir George will continue as chairman in a non-executive capacity, while Mr John Kerridge, chief executive, will take over the chairman's executive responsibilities.

The move follows Fisons' decision, announced last week, to shift its headquarters from London to Ipswich as part of a cost-cutting exercise.

Sir Ronald, who is 61, said yesterday that he would have been unable to devote enough time to Fisons while living in London. "I would have been too remote from the chief executive and it would have detracted from my other work." He was to have taken over in May on Sir George's retirement at 65.

Sir Ronald is also on the boards of S. G. Warburg, Roseco Minsep, APV Holdings and London and Manchester Assurance.

"John Kerridge has been chief executive for nine months and performed very well", Sir Ronald said. Mr Kerridge, who is 46, has been with Fisons for 20 years and was in charge of fertilizer division.

Two large works at Immingham, Humberside, and Avonmouth near Bristol are being consolidated and some other sites are being closed, with the eventual loss of more than 1,100 jobs.

The decision to close the Mayfair offices in London involving 70 redundancies was made after the group revealed a net loss last year of £16.8m compared with a profit in 1979 of £12m. The dividend was cut by two-thirds.

Poor results were blamed on the recession in the United Kingdom, Europe and North America and on high interest rates. The strength of sterling was also reckoned to have cut £20m from exports.

Fisons suffered an additional blow in January when it was forced to abandon Proxicromil, a new anti-asthma drug, after development costs of about £12m.

Yesterday Fisons share price gained 10p to 143p although most of the advance took place before the announcement.

IMI to raise £27.5m by rights issue

By Peter Wilson-Smith

IMI, the metals company, is raising £27.5m after expenses through a rights issue. The news accompanied better than expected profits for 1980, showing a fall of only 18 per cent to £28.2m. The shares closed 1½p up yesterday at 61p.

Sir Michael Clapham, the chairman, who retires next month, said that since the last rights issue in 1976 the group had invested £105m in expanding at home and overseas.

Capital spending—£25m in 1980—was still running at a high level with investment in titanium, copper tube and aluminium operations. IMI wanted to be able to continue expanding.

The dividend, increased from 6.29p gross to 6.43p in 1980, will be maintained on the enlarged capital "unless the present depression deepens even further or unforeseen circumstances arise".

The terms of the rights issue, underwritten by Hill Samuel, are two new shares at 48p for every seven ordinary shares held. Cazenove and Company is the broker.

Group turnover in 1980 rose from £612m to £629m, including a 19 per cent rise in exports to £135m

Financial Editor, page 19

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Arb-Latham	13p to 267p	Lloyds & Scott	19p to 198p
Barratt Devs	24p to 226p	Philips Lamps	18p to 365p
BTR	32p to 472p	Ricardo Eng	12p to 572p
Electrocomps	25p to 678p	Robertson Foods	14p to 150p
Rasmo	17p to 609p	Saatchi	20p to 363p

Falls

Broken Hill	25p to 730p	Husky Oil	20p to 580p
Castlefield	10p to 480p	Midland	7p to 308p
Cons Gold Flds	7p to 443p	Nthgate Explor	5p to 400p
Grindlays Holds	7p to 176p	Stag Furniture	4p to 83p
Hammersley	5p to 160p	Rennies Cons	5p to 125p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.98	1.90
Austria Sch	34.95	32.75
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75
Canada \$	2.71	2.62
Denmark Kr	15.36	14.56
Finland Mkk	9.55	9.05
France Fr	11.40	10.90
Germany DM	4.86	4.62
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00
Hongkong \$	12.20	11.60
Ireland Pt	1.33	1.27
Italy Lir	2380.00	2270.00
Japan Yn	490.00	465.00
Netherlands Gld	5.38	5.12
Norway Kr	12.55	11.90
Portugal Esc	128.00	122.00
South African Rd	1.99	1.85
Spain Pta	195.00	186.00
Sweden Kr	10.73	10.18
Switzerland Fr	4.43	4.20
USA \$	2.30	2.23
Yugoslavia Dnr	79.50	74.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Crash course in post-Armageddon for industrialists

Squaring up to nuclear survival

Most industrialists, buffeted and bruised by the worst recession that most can remember, can scarcely contemplate anything worse. But members of the Nuclear Protection Advisory Group (NuPag) believe that industry and business should consider the possibility of a nuclear Armageddon.

However remote this may appear, they have convinced more than 100 executives from leading companies that it would be worth while to part with £125 to pick up some tips on how industry might survive a nuclear war.

Heavyweights from companies like Unilever, ICI, Shell, the Central Electricity Generating Board will file into a one day seminar in London today organized by the NuPag with the theme: "Nuclear Attack; Protection for Industry".

Deprived by the BBC of the opportunity of watching *The War Game*, the film made 16 years ago depicting the effects of a nuclear explosion, these stout hearts of British industry will listen to experts from Europe and America expound their ideas on what British industry should be doing now to make life more bearable after a nuclear attack.

Mr David Widdicombe, QC, chairman of NuPag, who headed the Windscale inquiry says "Millions of survivors would be depending on essential industries operating again as effectively as possible.

"That is why it is urgent that businessmen understand and are able to implement survival techniques."

Mr Ivan Tyrrell, one of the organizers of the seminar, explained: "The object is to highlight the extreme vulnerability of this country to attack by modern weapons, and to help business planners assess what they can do to protect their workforces and essential plant in the light of the possibility of nuclear war."

It is all highly commendable and far-sighted, but the event has failed to register more than a flickering spark of interest at Centre Point, the London headquarters of the Confederation of British Industry.

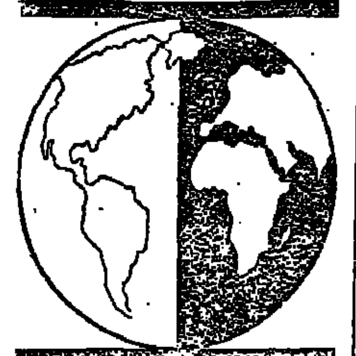
The CBI, and Sir Terence Beckett, its director general, do of course have more pressing short-term problems to face in fighting industry's corner in the continuing battle for economic survival by many member companies.

Sir Terence will be at the regular monthly meeting of the organization's council, and the CBI has demurred from sending any of its officials to the holocaust seminar.

One of Sir Terence's aides said last night: "In the event of a nuclear attack, we expect emergency committees to be coordinating the efforts of essential services and the activities of whatever industries survived."

And many others may observe somewhat cynically that trying to run a business in Britain in the present economic climate (particularly after last week's Budget) is a close enough parallel to a holocaust, and that there is no need to spend a day in London assimilating the finer points of the worst radiation hazard, or how much damage the electromagnetic pulse given off by nuclear explosions will do to the communications system, computers and power stations.

Peter Hill



Gulf oil ministers in talks

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani the Saudi Arabian oil minister hosted a "crucial" four-nation oil conference in Riyadh amid speculation that a new oil production strategy was to be discussed.

The meeting was attended by three other oil ministers—Shaikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah of Kuwait, Dr Mana Said al-Otaiba of the United Arab Emirates and Shaikh Abdul Aziz Bin Khalifa al Thani of Qatar. Industry sources said the ministers were to discuss ways of offsetting the present glut in Western oil markets.

"At this crucial meeting, the Gulf oil ministers are to review the latest developments in the world markets and devise a collective strategy of production in line with the new market realities", one Kuwaiti official said.

$750m deal cancelled

United States Steel has cancelled a deal to sell $750m worth of coal properties to Standard Oil Company of Ohio (Sohio). They were unable to agree on the commercial value of properties involved.

Swiss car sales up

Swiss car sales increased 1 per cent in February from a year earlier to 22,838 units from 22,160. Japanese car makers showed the biggest gains, with Datsun sales up 160 per cent to 1,406 units, and Subaru up 109 per cent to 904 units.

US production fall

United States industrial production declined a seasonally adjusted 0.5 per cent in February after a 0.4 per cent rise in January, the Federal Reserve Board said. February's decline was the first in seven months.

Belgian jobless eases

Belgium's unemployment eased in mid-March to 376,000 or 9.1 per cent from 378,700 or 9.2 per cent a month earlier. The total was sharply higher than one year erlier, however, when it stood at 304,800 or 7.5 per cent.

Excess capacity and low profit margins taking their toll

Food canners foresee more troubles

Britain's vegetable and fruit canning industry, already down to about 15 factories compared to twice the number 10 years ago, is squaring up to the prospect of short-time working, jobs at risk and possibly closure of some companies.

At the Anglian canning arm of Associated British Foods, Mr Russell Taylor, the commercial director, believes his company may be the only canning enterprise which is not losing money. "Not that we are making much profit", he added.

Smedley HP, the market leader with about 20 per cent and part of Imperial Foods, was also in trouble, faced with closing its Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, factory with the loss of 430 jobs. Smedley, which has closed three factories already in three years, has consistently made substantial losses in canning in recent years, according to the company.

The fate of Wisbech hangs on discussions just started with Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn whose canning operations, at Gorleston, Norfolk, and Maldon, Essex, are *the largest for supply of own-label canned* fruit and vegetables.

A new company jointly owned by TKM and Imperial Foods (part of the Imperial Group) is being planned with a £50m-a-year turnover, to be managed by TKM. It is hoped to have an agreement by the end of this month which would mean Wisbech continuing to manufacture although subsequent rationalization plans will result in the loss fo some jobs throughout the new group.

TKM has also been making losses in canning which it had hoped to halt by installing the latest machinery at Maldon. But TKM still faced canning losses last year.

About half the industry is working short-time, and some running at half capacity in the part of the year when non-seasonal lines like baked beans and spaghetti keep the factories ticking over before rhubarb, the first seasonal crop, comes in about the beginning of May.

But the peak of the cropping season, many canners will not be bringing in the usual flood of temporary workers to keep the canneries going continuously. Chivers Hartley, part of Cadbury Schweppes will be using only regular staff at its *Montrose, Angus, factory.* Canners cannot afford to carry too much excess stock because of the cost of the capital tied up. It reflects the continued decline in the market which is estimated since 1973 to have declined 26 per cent in vegetables and in fruit to have halved as both frozen and fresh foods have taken bigger slices of the market.

Already this month Lockwoods Foods, the Lincolnshire-based canners, has gone into receivership. Despite the closure of its Boston, Lincolnshire, factory—leaving four still operating—it is still the country's third largest canning operation with about 15 per cent of the market.

The industry has been facing sales decline of up to 3 per cent a year for some time but this year canned fruit has been especially hit because customers appear to class it as a luxury on which to economize. But the factor that points to the end of more factories and possibly some of the smaller companies is the industry's estimated overcapacity of up to 30 per cent.

Even if the receivers do not keep Lockwoods production going, there would still be excess capacity in what the Food Manufacturers Federation says is the worst-hit sector in food manufacturing.

Derek Harris

Oil companies plan fewer ships' officers

By Our Industrial Staff

Oil companies have begun to cut back the number of officers in their tanker fleets. British Petroleum Shipping, which operates a fleet of 58 ships, confirmed yesterday that it was planning to cut more than 350 officers' jobs over the next six months, and industry sources suggest that Shell Tankers UK is planning to axe 100 jobs.

BP—which yesterday said that it was adding British Inventor, a 10-year-old Japanese-built 215,000-tons-deadweight tanker, to two products tankers already up for sale—confirmed that almost one-eighth of the company's 2,825 officers will face redundancy.

The company has already begun discussions with leaders of the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association over its plans to cut 367 officers' jobs. Officers will be offered enhanced redundancy terms for voluntary severance and early retirement over the next six months before compulsory lay-offs are considered.

The bulk of the planned cutbacks will affect engineering officers, where 250 jobs are due to go, with the balance made up of deck, radio and catering officers.

BP's decision reflects the continuing recession and changes in the company's trading patterns.

The decision by the company to invite tenders for British Inventor, which has been laid up with other tankers in Brunei Bay since 1978, reflects continued overcapacity in the tanker market.

Shell, which owns or operates a fleet of 57 ships under the British flag with a total crew complement of 3,800, would not be drawn on its plans for crew reductions.

A spokesman for the company said: "Certainly there is nothing doing at the moment. Like every other tanker operator we are short of neither men nor ships, but we have not thought about redundancies in any concrete way."

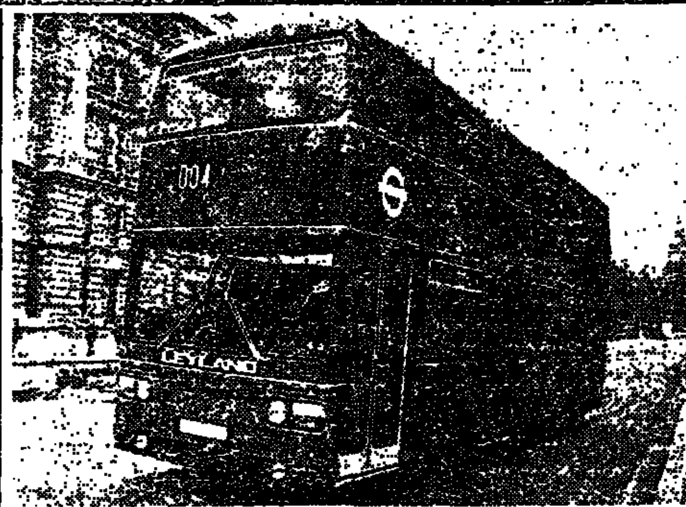
RCA plant closure

RCA International, part of the American-based RCA Corporation, is to close one of its two United Kingdom manufacturing operations, a records and cassette tapes plant in Washington New Town in the North-east. There will be a loss of 270 jobs.

RCA's factory on Jersey, in the Channel Islands, producing studio and other professional video tape cameras, is not affected.

Dock jobs go

About 800 dockers on Merseyside have asked for application forms under a new "golden handshake" scheme through which the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company plans to shed 1,000 jobs this year. The special payment of £16,000 is available to men in the ports of Liverpool and London who volunteer for the scheme by April 30.



The Titan chassis-less double-deck bus.

Leyland resumes production of Titan double-deck bus

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

Leyland Vehicles has resumed production of its advanced Titan double-deck bus after an interval of 10 months, during which its absence cost £19m in lost sales.

A combination of falling bus traffic and smaller government subsidy on bus purchases has already cut demand from 2,300 double-deckers last year to an estimated 1,800 this year, and a 50 per cent drop in 1982 sales is forecast.

Sir Michael closed the Park Royal factory in west London when workers refused to improve their "appalling productivity" record, and planned to switch Titan to the Eastern Coach Works plant at Lowestoft.

The move had to be aborted when Lowestoft's skilled body builders refused to accept an influx of the semi-skilled labour needed to produce the chassis-less bus.

Finally it has settled in a new home at Leyland National, Workington, Cumbria, where the similar uni-construction National single-decker is built.

The first Workington Titans will be leaving the factory later this month. But they will find different market conditions from those they left in May 1980.

An official of one of the largest passenger transport executives said yesterday: "The general feeling is that Leyland has 'missed the bus' with Titan."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Changes to the Lloyd's Bill

From Mr John Follows

Sir, The letter from Mr R. K. Nesbitt and others (March 16) illustrates some confusion in the minds of the writers, for the following reasons:

1 In the general sense, Lady Middleton and her supporters are not opposed to the Lloyd's Bill. However, by due process of parliamentary procedure, they are seeking logical and reasoned amendments to the Bill.

2 Lady Middleton and the Association of External Names of Lloyd's purport only to represent the interests of the members of that association, and the suggestion to the contrary by your correspondents is erroneous.

3 The application by the Society of Lloyd's to Parliament for the enactment of a Bill is a political act. The infant association seeks to amend that Bill: thus, this is also a political act. The writers must appreciate that immediately Sir Henry Fisher's report was published and found "overwhelmingly favourable" by the Committee of Lloyd's, all actions flowing from it towards Parliament are, of necessity, political in nature.

4 I find it difficult to accept that members of what is, by definition, the wealthiest socio-economic group in the country, should find £50 a "high subscription". This seems to be a contradiction in terminology.

5 In a democracy, Lady Middleton is entitled to express her views; and if it be only in association with some 50 members of Lloyd's out of a total of 16,000 external names, then it is still entirely right and proper that she should be heard.

6 Even a humble prayer represented by a petition to Parliament, of necessity, costs money; those of us who are prepared to support Lady Middleton's views will subscribe that money.

Lady Middleton and her colleagues have made it publicly clear that they only wish to improve the Bill before Parliament. No reasonable person can truly resent the amendments that the petition seeks. It feels that Lloyd's should not attempt to place itself above the law; it seeks to prevent incestu[ous] relationships and obvious c[on]flicts of interest (Fisher); lookes, *inter alia*, to ensure t[hat] the great majority of nam[es] who (financially) control [the] base of Lloyd's, should be fa[irly] represented.

Surely, no impartial per[son] can object to these aims? H[ow]ever, it is now unlikely t[hat] Parliament will allow the p[eti]tion to go by unheard. Certai[nly] the vast majority of the m[em]bership voted for a new [Bill] (myself included); but Lloy[d's] goes before Parliament as a s[up]plicant on self-regulation, a[nd] the Bill must be open to de[mo]cratic debate and, if need [be,] amendment. Parliament m[ust] feel that the establishment [of] Lloyd's can continue to gov[ern] itself only if it listens thoug[ht]fully to others.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FOLLOWS,
Old Mead,
Elsenham,
Nr Bishops Stortford,
Hertfordshire.

Loans to small firms

From Mr W. G. Poeton

Sir, I was very disappointed to learn from your article of March 12, that the Industrial Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC) is trying to convince the Department of Industry that it should have the unique ability to include equity with loan guarantees under the proposed pilot scheme of bank lending to independent firms.

The ICFC was always one of the most vociferous opponents of the scheme, and even now I understand it has refused to participate in the scheme agreed between the Department of Industry and the banks.

The Department of Industry must stand firm in opposing those equity package overtures. They are wholly alien to the concept of government loan guarantees, which are devised solely to overcome the inability or unwillingness of many business borrowers to accept the onerous conditions often required by those who are engaged in the business of lending money to industry.

If the ICFC wishes to participate in the government loan guarantee scheme, let it publicize its understanding of the need for the scheme, announce that it will enthusiastically support and promote it, and use it solely on "loan only" situations, and compete fairly with other bankers.

The government loan guarantee scheme together with the start-up-business tax incentive, provide the essential elements necessary to revitalize much of British industry. Anything short of this will only be counter-productive and further the concentration of economic power in the United Kingdom, which is the basic weakness of our industrial structure.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. POETON,
The Union of Independent Companies,
71 Fleet Street,
London, EC4.
March 16.

Miners' co-ops

From Mr D. Hindson

Sir, Mr Horn (March 1[4]) makes a perfectly valid poi[nt] in suggesting coal pensi[on] funds be used for some deg[ree] in independent production [of] coal through miners' cooper[a]tives. The 1979 NCB St[aff] Superannuation Report sho[ws] £252m invested in property [in] the South-east, £61m in [the] whole of the Midlands a[nd] North-east where most of [the] "real" wealth, coal, [is] produced.

Lessons must be learn[t] from the Mondragon expe[ri]ment in Spain, where ea[ch] worker entering the sche[me] had to put up £2,000 of [his] own money. (Todays requi[re]ment, I do not know.) Wh[ere] there is this commitme[nt] success is more than like[ly]. There are numerous sma[ll] mines working at present [in] our country—I wonder h[ow] many are cooperatives?

Yours faithfully,
D. HINDSON,
6a The Chase,
Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7DD

Expensive celebration

From Mr John Morgan

Sir, Following the minimal help for small business in the Budget, the Prime Minister has announced that the day of Prince Charles' wedding will be a public holiday. A small business, half of whose costs are labour, will pay approximately 0.2 per cent of its turnover to celebrate the occasion. With many just managing to make a profit of 2 per cent on their turnover, perhaps 25 per cent return on their capital, this will be an extra 10 per cent tax.

I am sure no such thought is in the Prince of Wales' mind, and it would be so much better if the country were to work an extra three quarters of an hour for the preceding fortnight (making a conventional 7½-hour day), so that we celebrated the wedding on an earned holiday.

Yours etc,
JOHN MORGAN,
The Down House,
Appleshaw,
Andover,
Hants SP11 9AA.
March 14.

Fate of TR7

From B. G. Muirhead

Sir, According to your repo[rt] (March 14) on BL's TR7 a[nd] its performance in the Unit[ed] States export market, a stro[ng] currency is fatal to a mode[l's] profitability and success. Giv[en] the legendary strength of t[he] German mark, is it not the[re]fore somewhat surprising th[at] the highways of California a[re] packed with Mercedes a[nd] Porsche sports cars?

Yours faithfully,
B. G. MUIRHEAD,
25 Warrender Park Terrace,
Edinburgh, EH9 2LS,
Scotland.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Putting together a new banking giant

Standard Chartered and Royal Bank of Scotland have had to steer a difficult course between asset values and earnings in determining the terms of their merger. In the event it looks as though the short term benefit lies with Standard whose 1-for-5 offer plus 50p cash values Royal at 139p after the 53p slump to 644p in Standard's share price as the market adjusted to the extra 45m Standard shares that would need to be digested.

This is around 90p below last December's asset value but against that Standard can show a much healthier earnings outlook with latest year pretax profits on a sharply rising trend up from £170m to £232m while Royal's £100m pretax in 1980 represents a cyclical peak. And there are some worries that Royal's downward trend could hamper Standard's prospects over the next few years.

But Standard will have access to Royal's strong capital base which will improve its own weak ratios considerably—free equity rises to almost 3 and the free capital ratio goes to 4.4—and may be seen by some as a disguised rights issue and at the same time is getting a useful United Kingdom tax base to solve its looming problems on this front and appears to be avoiding any earnings dilution along the way.

For Royal the benefits appear to be much longer term, exposure to overseas banking and the build up of its United Kingdom retail network. But both sides were stressing the sound strategic sense of the deal yesterday and denied suggestions that there was anything defensive.

Lloyds Bank itself wasted no time yesterday in putting in an offer for Lloyds & Scottish after Standard's agreement in principle to dispose of Royal's 39.3 per cent holding. The logic of that move has always looked compelling and while its 200p a share offer fully values L & S representing something like twice asset value, there are hidden benefits to Lloyds in the deal. For one thing full consolidation of L & S will provide a useful contra cyclical source of earnings to domestic banking. More important is likely to be the tax shelter Lloyds will enjoy from L & S's leasing side and the entree to the consumer hire purchase sector where Llyods has traditionally been weak.

A third party bidder for Royal now seems more remote than a monopolies reference although if the new grouping does emerge as planned at the moment it can claim that competition will be increased. For investors the realignment in United Kingdom banking reduces the scope for investment in the sector and there is still a suspicion that megalomaniac bank managements are pushing for concentration for concentration's sake.

Barratt

Still bucking the trend

Barratt Developments, Britain's biggest housebuilder, claims to be unique. The stock market interprets that as being unorthodox. But figures eventually speak louder than preconceptions. The shares jumped 24p to 26p, a new peak yesterday (at one time last year they were 80p) when Barratt published interim pre-tax profits to December up by some 3 per cent to £11.89m while turnover rose by 24 per cent to £128.56m. In the year to last June profits rose by 6 per cent to £24.7m.

Suggestions that its profits simply reflected a policy of buying land cheap and selling it dear are rejected by the company. Barratt maintains that the cost of carrying the land negated any such profit. Barratt says it decentralizes selling more than any other competitor; and that up to a quarter of its homes are now timber framed which means they can be built more quickly. Moreover, a policy of subcontracting means that small builders hungry for work can take the strain when business is tough.

Barratt is no longer subsidizing mortgages; and expects the housebuilding industry to pick up quicky this year. It should complete 12,000 or more homes against 11,000 last time. It will then have around 11 per cent of the market. As the year progresses, housebuilding costs and prices will once again move in opposite directions. In the latest half year the two United States acquisitions did little to contribute—they are being switched to the Barratt style of selling—but they are scheduled to do a lot more in coming years.

Debt is still only 60 per cent of funds employed and if, as some say, Barratt reports profits of £27m this year to June, there will probably be no cash-call until autumn when housebuilding could be strating to explode into expansion. Barratt is still under-represented in the South of England where margins are fattest. The shares still yield a well covered 7.7 per cent, and seem likely to come in for further support.

IMI

Plumps for a rights issue

IMI's results were not only better than most engineering companies have been able to manage during 1980, but also better than the market was expecting. Although volumes were down by over 5 per cent, profits have only fallen from £34.5m to £28.2m pretax, and even this was after charging £5m of redundancy costs.

So IMI is taking full advantage of these figures by tapping the market for £27.5m at a time when the balance sheet is looking strong. Before the issue IMI had net borrowings of only £53m against £200m net tangible worth. Inevitably the rights issue has given rise to speculation that a major acquisition is on the way.



Sir Robert Clark, who will become chairman of IMI next month.

The other point for shareholders is that in real terms IMI is not generating enough profit to maintain the business and also pay dividedns at the current rate. The dividend was uncovered under CCA in 1979 and may be again in 1980, when it will cost £12m net and very likely more assuming there is still unrelieved ACT to pay.

Profits in 1981 may even be held around last year's levels with help from the interest on the rights money and the promise of a maintained dividend on the enlarged capital assuming nothing drastic happens is likely to carry more weight in the short-term than worries about CCA.

Brooke Bond

Ahead in Britain

Brooke Bond Liebig's first half pretax profits, down almost £5m to £19.3m, are not strictly comparable with the 1979 figures since those results were distorted by the deferral of television advertising expenditure and the abnormal sales of imperial tea packs in the run up to metrication.

The United Kingdom contributed 52 per cent of the £22.8m operating profits, a sharp rise from the 40 per cent of only about a year ago. This is a deliberate policy, largely encouraged by the high rate of tax on foreign earnings in their country of origin.

Despite trade destocking and the High Street price war, retail tea margins remained good, while Brooke Bond's share of the market was maintained. Baxter, the butchers, made higher profits in the first half, helped by heavy Christmas spending. But the other side of the domestic meat business, the slaughtering, suffered from the high price of livestock and foreign competition. The profit contribution fell from about £500,00 to break even.

Overseas earnings down about £500,000 to £10.8m and the unusual factors in the comparable period of the previous year cut trading profits by £3.3m. It was interest charges soaring from £1.92m to £3.47m which hit pretax profits.

This increase was mainly attributable to the cost of the 29 per cent stake in Mallinson-Denny. That company's profits will be included in the final figures, but so will the interest charge for taking control of the timber importers.

Nicholas Hirst and Michael Prest

Wrestling with the politics of uranium

Later this year the Government may pick international partners to collaborate on the building of a prototype fast breeder reactorof commercial size in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority hopes that it will. It has told the Government that it thinks that a fast reactor needs to be built and it is naturally keen to move on from the experience gained on the two small-scale plants it has operated at Dounreay in Scotland to the logical next stage of development.

A choice of international partners, which would help to defray thecost of the new reactor (likely to be at least half as much again as that of a conventional nuclear station) would set in motion the process leading up to the ordering of a demonstration commercial project within the next few years.

Opposition, is likely to be strong, however. The great advantage of the fast reactor is that its use of uranium is some 60 times more efficient than that of the conventional thermal reactors which form the Government's intended nuclear programme at present, but it is tecvnologically more advanced and relies on plutonium, an element used in the production of nuclear weapons.

Before a decision is taken to build a fast reactor, the Government has promised a public inquiry, which is likely to be fought as bitterly as was the application to increase the reprocessing capacity at Windscale four years ago. Much of the argument may depend on whether fast reactors are economically necessary.

If uranium becomes more difficult (or vastly more expensive to obtain) faset reactors will come into their own. Too early a start on a fast reactor programme could be a waste of money and public servants' time; too late a start could leave Britain dependent on imports of another highly expensive fuel.

At first glance Britain's supplies of uranium look precarious. The 12½ per cent of Britain's electricity generated by nuclear power involves the use of 1,500 metric tonnes a year of uranium ore. All the United Kingdom's requirements are met by imports from only two suppliers, a contract for about 10,000 short tons (a short ton is a little less than a metric ton) from Rio Algom in Canada ending in 1982 (to be replaced by a contract for a broadly similar amount over 10 years to 1992) and a contract of an undisclosed amount from the Rossing mine in Namibia.

Dependency on only two sources, particularly when one—Rossing—is in a potential unstable country whose future is in doubt, might appear to be extremely worrying. In fact there is enough uranium in Britain for there to be no immediate worry if either contract were to be cancelled. Both were agreed when Britain's nuclear power programme was expected to grow far faster than it has. The delay in commissioning the advanced gas-cooled reactors, largely ordered during the sixties, has meant that stocks have risen.

But while stockpiles might give us an adequate breathing space in an emergency they are not an open-ended source of supply. Imports and usage are now approaching balance and there will soon be another three nuclear stations on stream.

The Civil Uranium Procurement Directorate, which was set up in 1979 to coordinate the buying policies of British Nuclear Fuels, the South of Scotland Electricity Board and the Central Electricity Generating Board, is aware of the problem.

The uranium market is highly political. Only six countries are producing the material—Australia, South Africa (including Namibia), Canada, the United States, Gabon and Niger.

In 1977 Canada placed a moratorium on exports to Europe because it believed that it was unable to gain sufficiently satisfactory assurances on safeguards against weapons proliferation. Australia, under Mr Gough Whitlam, delayed mine development and exports of uranium; and the United States, under President Carter, placed stringent restrictions on the use of uranium enriched in its plants and exported for use in overseas reactors.

Britain was able, because of its stockpile, to help out a German utility which had run short of supplies, but with a programme now which involves building roughly one new nuclear power station a year for 10 years, the procurement directorate is keen to diversify its sources.

It appears to have plenty of time to do so. During 1980 worldwide cancellations of nuclear orders were higher than the number of new orders placed and the spot price of uranium fell sharply. Indeed, American utilities have sold out material from their own stocks, undercutting producers, and sometimes producers have bought from the utilities to sell to other users.

But the present lack of demand for uranium could create problems for the future if it means that new mines are not put into production. A further problem is that supplies are often tied into firm contracts for the enrichment processes necessary to make the uranium usable in reactors and these contracts have run ahead of utilities' needs, creating additional stockpiles of prepared material.

Steady stockpiling policies by power station authorities could keep demand rising smoothly, however, Mr Philippe Drayman, of Uranium Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann, suggested to the fifth annual symposium of the Uranium Institute last September that maintaining world stockpiles of between two and a half and three years forward requirements over the next few years would secure sufficient new mining capacity for future needs.

Certainly, the United Kingdom authorities have been fairly relaxed in their procurment policies. Negotiations were undertaken for supplies from the new Ranger mine in Australia, but it was decided that the terms were not sufficiently advantageous. The Rossing contract runs out, without an automatic renewal, in 1984 and for political as well as strategic reasons an attempt is bound to be made to spread supply risks elsewhere. Ideally, by the 1990s the procurment directorate would like supplies from about five countries under a dozen or so medium-size contracts.

It would also like about a quarter of its supplies to come from operations in which it has an interest. Since 1974 the Central Electricity Generating Board has taken partnerships in consortia searching for uranium. It now has interests in the United States, Canada, Australia and in several African states, although none of them have yet produced uranium finds in commercial quantities.

Uncertainties over the future will always remain. Uranium mines have an average life of 10 to 15 years, whereas a nuclear power station should last for at least 30 years. Additional supplies in the United Kingdom are, however, available from the reprocessing of spent uranium, which will increase sharply when the expansion of British Nuclear Fuels' plant at Windscale is completed.

Britain has no need to be "panicked" into going for fast reactors. Its need for them depends on how the international market in uranium is likely to develop and whether alternative technologies, such as wind, wave and tidal power, can provide energy supplementary to that provided by conventional fossil-fuelled and nuclear plants at competitive cost.

But a country without its own uranium supplies must become increasingly vulnerable to supply interruptions as the world becomes more reliant on nuclear power. The fast reactor provides an insurance policy. The problem is deciding when to take it out.

Hard times in America's 'motor city'

The citizens of Detroit are feeling the effects of cutbacks in the car industry

Detroit

Like the American car industry, which lost $4,000m (about £1,800m) last year, the citizens of Detroit—America's "motor city"—have had to change their life-styles. The car market has been depressed for about a year and the industry has been forced to lay off hundreds of thousands of workers nationally and tens of thousands locally.

"I see people coming into the welfare office who have never been in one before because they have always been able to make it on their own somehow", says Mr Clifford Schnell, a state welfare department official.

"Most of the people believe that they will be able to get another $10-an-hour job in a car plant some day. They don't realize that times have changed."

The most recent unemployment figures for January, 1981, showed 290,000 unemployed in the Detroit area compared with 258,000 in December and 230,000 in January, 1980. Of these about 50,000 were car workers still eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefit.



Waiting "in line" at the Detroit unemployment office: the proportion of workers without jobs has been as high as 20 per cent.

The local unemployment rate in the Detroit area was 14.4 per cent in January compared with 11.3 per cent one year earlier. During the peak period for lay-offs last spring, it was much higher, with estimates for total unemployed in the city put at more than 20 per cent.

Typically, a car worker with a wife and two children might take home $1,200 (about £520) a month while working. First laid off with unemployment insurance and supplemental unemployment benefit he would take home 95 per cent of that amount.

After those benefits expire, typically in about 26 weeks, his benefits under a state programme of assistance for dependent children of the unemployed would total about $600 a month to cover the cost of shelter, food and clothing for his family.

The unemployed man would also receive $100 a month in food stamps, which he can exchange for food at markets, and his family medical and dental bills also would be paid.

The single worker on general assistance would receive about $250 a month after his unemployment insurance and supplemental unemployment benefits expire.

For many laid-off car workers the initial benefits have now expired, leaving only general assistance.

"The local business activity index, which is a good indicator of real income, fell by 19 per cent last year", says Mr David Littman, an economist who is vice-president of Manufacturers National Bank.

"It was the sharpest decline since the 1958 recession.

"The lowest cyclical point was last June", he says. "We are definitely off the bottom of the cycle."

Mr Littman believes that the long-term position will improve, but there will be no dramatic improvement in the short term. The decline last spring corresponded to the period of heaviest lay-offs, although real disposable income fell only slightly, because of unemployment insurance, supplemental unemployment benefits, trade readjustment assistance and other transfer payments.

The changing life-style of the city manifests itself in various ways. Local merchants have reported a drop in consumer buying in "blue collar" areas and many restaurants say there has been a noticeable fall-off in the lunch and dinner trade because of sharply reduced expense accounts and restricted family budgets.

But if eating out has become a luxury many can no longer afford, the consumption of alcohol has not been affected—indeed, quite the contrary. Many taverns report an increase in their business but surprisingly perhaps, in view of the widespread despondency and the higher than usual intake of alcohol, the police have not found any corresponding increase in the crime rate.

The entire city is acutely aware of these problems because local newspapers, television and radio stations have given blanket coverage to the bad economic news, complete with pictures of long queues of unemployed and empty shopping centre car parks.

There are real fears that Reagan administration budget cuts in social assistance programmes could have an immediate and severe impact on Detroit. Officials in Detroit and other area communities are particularly worried that plans to cut food stamp benefits, funded in part by Federal aid, could have an immediate effect on the unemployed.

Another "vital" programme which will be trimmed is the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, which communities have used to retrain laid off workers, train and hire the hard-core unemployed and provide part-time employment for urban youth.

Detroit has asked the state legislature to allow it to raise local income tax rates to help the city meet its budget deficits. Mr Littman said that raising the tax rates now "would be economically the worst thing" the city could do.

In fact, the city of Detroit and the Michigan State government are both faced with massive budget cuts, tax increases or both, to compensate for lower income and sales tax revenues.

Mayor Coleman Young, who has personally interceded on behalf of the city and the car industry in Washington, is credited with having generated a "renaissance" in Detroit and his administration is now trying to maintain that image in the face of the local economic problems.

"In spite of the unprecedented crisis in the car industry because of rising prices, high interest rates and an unsettled economic picture; Detroit's renaissance is continuing", he says.

"We are building for the future with the emphasis on diversification of our economy, and an increased attention to our port", he says. "Renaissance is, above all, a matter of the spirit and culturally Detroit is alive and well."

But in spite of the announced plans to diversify the local economy a scheme to create a free trade zone in the port and other attempts to lure business other than the car industry to the area, there is an understanding that this is still the "motor city."

Indeed, General Motors plans to close its Cadillac plant but replace it with a newer facility, if it can get the necessary tax incentives and survive a legal challenge from the residents who would be displaced by the new plant. If it fails, the city will lose another 6,000 jobs.

And the shrinkage goes on. Chrysler closed one plant in the area last year and is to shut another one this year, eliminating another 2,600 jobs. Both General Motors and Ford have plans to trim their salaried staffs by as much as 15 per cent, which will eliminate thousands of further jobs in the Detroit area.

There may be differences about whether this cutback in the car industry is cyclical or permanent, but there is general agreement that Detroit is not out of the economic woods yet and that even the expected spurt in car sales later in the year will not make the unemployment queues disappear immediately.

But hope does not die easily. There also is the feeling that there is indeed a road back to economic recovery for Detroit, even if it is in disrepair.

Edward Lapham

Business Diary: Unnatural breaks? • Tripe à la mode

There was little cheer for the commercial television industry yesterday from a brace of knights close to its heart—Huw Wheldon, the former managing director of BBC TV and Richard Marsh, one-time Labour cabinet minister and now deputy chairman of TV-AM, the successful breakfast television consortium.

Both beamed happily at the launch of a new company designed to take advertising revenue away from the existing commercial stations and, what is more, to do so in a way which the conventional television companies are banned from imitating.

Sir Huw, Sir Richard and former BBC linkman Michael Barratt are the three big names who have a personal stake in Commercial Video which is designed to cash in on the home video boom.

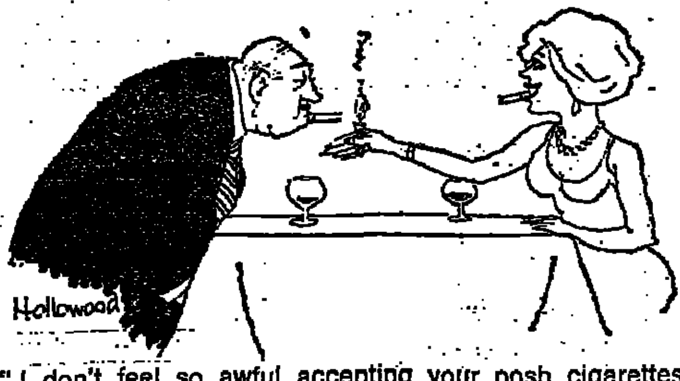
CV offers manufacturers the chance to pay for the production of a one-hour pre-recorded tape, usually at about £20,000 a time, which will then be sold to the public for about £13 a time.

One of its first efforts will involve Pedigree Petfoods, which has financed a feature entitled *All you need to know about dogs*. Pedigree products appear not in commercial breaks, but as part of the general programme. It is this which is likel yto infuriate the television companies. Home video is in something of a privileged position at present, coming under no formal code of advertising practice. Independent television does and is strictly forbidden from using an editorial format for commercial promotion.

So, popular as Commercial video's programmes may become, they could never be broadcast in Britain. Eric Starkey, who is the company's marketing expert, says that it will keep to the spirit of the Code of Advertising Practice, though, as the code is not meant to apply to home video, it is difficult to see just what this means.

But all is likely to become clear within a few months. New powers for self-regulatory control of home video advertising and the new teletext services, such as the Post Office's Prestel, which are also outside the present legislation, are reported to be on the way, probably from the Home Office.

"BP Polystyrene improves Austrian Beer" is the unlikely headline over an announcement from the oil company. It turns out that the poor Austrians do not swallow the stuff. Polystyrene balls are floated on top of beer vats to remove sediment.



"I don't feel so awful accepting your posh cigarettes costing about 5p each when I can offer you the use of my lighter newly taxed at 35p."

● Francophobes really must subscribe to the monthly review of France's leading private bank, the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas.

The latest issue treats us to a lecture on Britain's downfall. The slide started, the bank says, when Winston Churchill, as Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1925, fixed the exchange rate of sterling at the prewar level, thus provoking an economic crisis and setting the country on the road to ruin.

As Prime Minister during the next war, he promised blood, toil, tears and sweat, which eventually had to be paid for with overpriced social reforms.

Our "splendid isolation" lost us the empire, replacing it with nothing; our trade unions are Malthusian and our businessmen are financiers rather than industrialists.

The distinctly unflattering survey concludes that Mrs Thatcher's real aim is to change in depth the sociological behaviour of the British, but that she has failed. This is seen as proof that it is impossible to change mentality and behaviour by decree, not to mention preconceptions about those funny people across the Channel.

● Walter Goldsmith, the director general ofthe Institute of Directors, who is never slow to offer advice, now has some for Lord Soames, the former Governo rof Rhodesia.

Soames returns to Salisbury next weekto lead the British delegation at a conference of international organizations and governmets discussig the country's reconstruction and development.

Goldsmith, just back from his second visit since the lifting of sanctions, says that the British Government should concentrate its aid on specific projects and act in partnership with industry.

The railways were in particular need, having been starved of investment, he said.

Goven the Government's reductance to cough up the investment Sir Peter Parker has demanded for our own railways, it would surely be ironic if Soames followed that bit of advice.

As far as purely private business investment is concerned, let no one in England think that they have any advantage Goldsmith says. "They will have to operate against international competition."

He thinks that the battle has been already lost as far as restructuring the telecommunications network is concerned, but that there is still plenty of opportunity in other areas.

● Sure enough, somebody at British Aerospace, Weybridge, has identified the mysterious model of an aircraft, which was found in a locked cupboard bought three years ago from its predecessor, the British Aircraft Corporation, and mentioned here on Monday.

It is, it seems, a Vickers Supermarine 569, a missile designed in 1957 to replace the cancelled Blue Steel stand-off bomb and it was to have been carried in the bomb bay of the Victor bomber.

So we were wrong in suggesting that with its wingtip engines it was a design for a vertical take-off aircraft, but we were right in saying that, like so many other British aircraft projects since the war, it was cancelled.

What on earth is happening to the National Health Service? Struggling through a hailstorm in Holborn yesterday, I was somewhat bemused to meet a group in face masks and green surgeon's gowns pushing what appeared to be a patient on a trolley. "Fancy contributing to research at St Bart's, sir?", asked the leading medico, waving a collecting box.

David Hewson

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Bank takeover news sets firm trading tone

Selective buying of second liners by most of the leading institutions saw equities maintain their recent rally yesterday.

Strong overnight support for Wall Street, which enabled it to stay above the 1,000 mark, saw trading begin on a firm note with electricals again popular.

Sentiment was also helped by the latest round of takeover news among banks with both Standard Chartered and Royal Bank of Scotland returning from suspension after their merger proposals. Standard opened 47p lower at 650p, before diving to 620p and then recovering to close at 644p, a net fall on the day of 53p. Royal Bank of Scotland was in better form and rallied 40p to 136p.

The bid from Lloyds Bank, up 7p at 315p, for Lloyds & Scottish, 40 per cent owned by Royal Bank of Scotland, provided fresh stimulus as the shares rebounded 19p to 198p.

Elsewhere, the general shortage of stock and subsequent bear squeeze kept jobbers on their toes adding an exaggerated slant to most price movements.

In the event, the *FT* Index, which was 2.9 higher at 10 am, eventually closed up 7.8 at 487.6.

Government securities encountered profit taking after their recent strong performance. But the Government Broker was still able to activate the new tap Exchequer 12½ per cent 1990 at £15 5/16 but it was later withdrawn.

In longs, prices opened steady but drifted throughout the day with most prices closing £¼ below their best levels, while in shorts earlier rises of £1/16 *soon gave way to see the list* close basically unchanged on the day.

Leading industrials made moderate progress in the thin conditions with Beechams 4p steadier at 160p, Glaxo 4p at 278p, Unilever 7p at 490p and Fisons 10p at 143p. But most eyes were firmly focused on GKN, up 3p at 131p, ahead of figures later today.

In the meantime, *Metal Box* hardened 4p to 170p, Hawker Siddeley 6p to 280p while Turner & Newall rose 3p to 79p amid talk that South African interests were at work.

Most of the major City investment analysts were anxiously awaiting their turn at a meeting last night at the Insurance Institute to tax the board of ICI about future prospects. However, they are likely to be confronted with yet more gloom. The shares yesterday added 4p to 236p.

The takeover fever seen in banks and financials worked through to the rest of the sector. Bank of Scotland jumped 10p to 302p but Grindlays, for a long time favoured as a takeover candidate, relapsed 7p to 176p. In financials, Provident Financials climbed 12p to 146p followed by Wagon Finance 4p to 53p. But FNC reverted to unchanged at 31½ after an earlier rise of 1½p at 33p.

This flurry of activity again pushed the main clearing banks into the background with small gains due mainly to the thin conditions. Barclays added 7p to 388p, National Westminster a similar figure at 358p, while Midland slid 7p to 308p, ahead of figure on Friday.

Electricals remained popular with shares of ICL advancing another 3p to 45p amid talk of a financial rescue operation by the Government. AB Electronic rose 2p to 106p, after 92p, following figures and an encouraging trading statement, but Victor Products shed 4p to 164p in the wake of recent figures. Awaiting figures on Friday Standard Telephone & Cables expanded 8p to 517p while BICC, reporting soon, climbed 9p to 208p. The sensitive conditions provided improvements in GEC 7p to 653p, Racal 4p to 359p, Plessey 7p to 330p, Thorn EMI 8p to 316p, Ferranti 12p to 555p Electrocomponents 25p to 678p and Kode Int 15p to 305p.

Elsewhere on the bid front, profit taking clipped 2p from Tunnel Holdings at 386p as T. W. Ward gained 4p to 124p. Bond St Fabrics returned from suspension to rise 5p to 39p after bid terms from Auchinleck and bid talk stimulated Davies & Newman 14p to 168p. Milford Docks was wanted, 11p better at 121p, as North Amersham increased its stake to 10.7 per cent.

Among those to benefit from stock shortages were, Great Universal Stores "A" 13p to 468p, Saatchi & Saatchi 20p to 363p and Dowty 12p to 259p, while speculative buying hoisted Braby Leslie 3p to 31p, Geers Gross 7p to 99p and Gripperrods 10p to 144p.

Favourable mention of the leisure market helped Management Agency & Music 6p to 188p, Associated Leisure 8p to 131p and Ladbroke 12p to 272p.

Building had Barratt Developments 24p stronger at 226p after improved interim figures, as Fairclough Cons rose 13p to 97p after a better performance than expected. The anticipated £27m rights issue accompanying figures left IMI 1½p better at 61p but disappointing trading news lowered Stag Furniture 4p to 83p and Ductile Steel 2p to 43p. BTR continued to benefit from recent figures leaping 32p to 472p.

In foods, figures from Brooke Bond Leibig were in line with most expectations and the shares rallied 1p to 48p. Cadbury Schweppes was wanted, ahead of figures due out soon, firming 3p to 76½p as was Bejam for a similar reason 7p dearer at 120p. Avana was another favourite, rising 7p to 213p, while its prospective partner Robertson Foods hardened 14p to 150p despite the rejection of the offer. In the meantime, speculative support left Bernard Matthews 15p higher at 383p, making a 35p rise so far this account.

Shortage of stock and the overnight strength of Wall St kept oil shares on the move yesterday with prices continuing to gather pace regardless of the low turnover. BP edged ahead 6p to 392p along with Shell 4p at 396p. Ultramar 7p at 438p, Lasmo 17p at 609p and Burmah 3p at 174p.

Among second liners, selective buying lifted Premier Cons 1p to 104p, Imperial Continental Gas 5p to 223p, Berkeley Exploration 15p to 293p and KCA International 2p to 193p.

Full-year results from Tricentrol due tomorrow will be at the lower end of expectation. Analysts have been downgrading earlier estimates and are now looking for between £15 and £15.5m of net income, compared with £10.4m last time. However, the shares remained buoyant with an 8p rise to 288p yesterday.

Properties tended to follow the market better, but business remained low key. MEPC rose 3p at 230p, Land Securities 6p at 400p, Hammerson "A" 5p at 610p and Stock Conversion a similar figure at 338p.

Equity turnover for March 16 was £100.238m (bargains 17,657). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Racal, Thorn EMI, Saatchi, Ladbroke, Robertson Foods, Hambro Life and Avana Group.

Traditional options: Dealers reported quieter conditions yesterday. Calls were made in *ICI, Turner & Newall, Cons* Gold, ICL, Conex, and Plessey.

Traded options: A total of 613 were recorded. GEC attracted 27, ICI 41, Commercial Union 25, Courts 62, Cons Gold 4, and BP 37.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
AB Electronic (I)	10.4(10.6)	0.56†(0.4)	—(7.6)	0.5(3.0)	2/6	—(7.5)
Barratt Dev (I)	128.6(103.4)	11.9(11.6)	—(—)	3.5(2.8)	29/5	12.4*(9.8)
Bronx Enginrng (F)	14.8(11.2)	0.5(0.62)	12.96(4.87)	0.79(0.79)	11/5	1.08(1.05)
Burmah Mines (F)	—(—)	0.14(0.12)	0.73(0.63)	0.75(0.62)	14/5	—(—)
Ductile (I)	23.12(37.37)	1.48†(2.37)	—(—)	—(2.11)	—	—(4.88)
Fairclough (F)	264.05(237.5)	10.27(10.17)	18.8(16.03)	2.8(2.4)	1/7	4.5(4.0)
IMI (F)	629(612)	28.2(34.5)	10.8(15.7)	2.5(2.5)	8/5	4.5(4.4)
Jamaica Sugar (F)	*0.11(0.2)*	*0.03(0.03†)*	*0.9(0.89†)*	*Nil(Nil)*	—	*Nil(Nil)*
Ldn Scottish (I)	3.76(3.22)	0.4(0.35)	—(—)	0.6(0.52)	15/5	—(—)
McLaughlin & H (F)	46.3(34.6)	1.2(0.98)	44.9(14.3)	3.45(—)	7/5	5.25(3.01)
Stag Furniture (F)	27.8(29.5)	1.5(3.3)	12.0(34.8)	3.25(—)	26/5	5.0(5.0)
Waring & Gillow (I)	41.22(29.79)	2.84(2.12)	14.0(6.5)	1.5(1.5)	19/5	—(4.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Forecast. † = Loss.

No interim as Ductile drops to £1.5m loss

By Margereta Pagano

The West Midlands steel group, Ductile Steels, yesterday disclosed that despite large-scale redundancies and short-time working it had plunged into losses. The interim dividend has been passed.

Interim results to December show a pretax loss of £1.48m compared with profits last time of £2.37m. Sales fell by 40 per cent to £23.12m against £37.37m. The interim dividend last year was 3.02p gross. The shares tumbled 2p to 43p, just 1p above the low for the year.

Mr Ronald Sidaway, chairman, said this was the first time a loss had been recorded since Ductile was founded in 1936.

All divisions were severely hit by the acute shortage of orders and increased costs, but the worst affected were those in the steel and engineering divisions.

The group had felt the effect of extra costs coupled with the high pound and high interest rates which encouraged imports, and at home, price cutting by the British Steel Corporation, he said. Ductile's main customers are the motor industries.

The first signs of the slump in demand started last May, and by November last year, demand had collapsed to about 40 per cent of the previous year. Short time working continues at most of the group's plants and over the year some 300 employees have been made redundant. This leaves a workforce of 1,900.

Commenting on passing the dividend, Mr Sidaway said: "As yet there are few signs of a general recovery in trade. Under these conditions we must suspend payment of a dividend until we know the results for the full year and are better able to assess our future prospects."

Last year to June pretax profits were £4m on sales of £72.79m.

Fairclough inches ahead despite fall of associates

By Peter Wainright

Fairclough Construction Group, the civil engineering, building, tunnelling, opencast coal mining steelwork and materials handling group, had a better reception to its figures for 1980 than it did for 1979. A year ago the shares slipped 1p to 66p on news that 1979 pretax profits only rose from £9.56m to £10.17m.

Yesterday they climbed 13p to 97p on word that profits had inched ahead to £10.27m while turnover advanced from £237.5m to £264.05m. These profits would have been a lot *higher* but for a plunge in those of associates which fell from £2.77m to £990,000.

The main associated company is Fairclough-Al Midani, the 49 per cent owned concern operating in Saudi Arabia. There are also operations in Kenya. As a result, earnings a share are up modestly from 16.03p to 18.79p but they swell to 42.34p, if, like the group, one adds back a hefty £10.34m in deferred tax. Ignoring this, current cost earnings a share emerge at 10.7p while the inflation-adjusted pretax profit comes down to £6.7m. However, the dividend rises from 5.72p gross to 6.4p.

Mr Oswald Davies, chairman said that assets per share are now more than 110p. Cash balances are strong and work in hand is "satisfactory".

The cash apparently amounts to around £12.5m which compares with a market capitalization of not much more than £40m. Orders on hand are around £300m which is reassuring because the group depends heavily upon United Kingdom earnings. Within these, public sector work is important.

Dealers were relieved at the latest news, but at 93p, a 1980-81 peak, the yield is less than 7 per cent.

Stag Furniture profit halved in tough trading

By Margareta Pagano

Competitive trading conditions are blamed for a 56 per cent fall in Stag Furniture Holdings' pretax profits to £1.46m in the year to December.

Profits fell from £3.35m last time and sales declined by 5 per cent to £27.9m. The final dividend is 4.64p, gross, making a total payment for the year of 7.14p gross which is *equal to last year's payment* after adjusting for a scrip issue. The shares fell 4p to 83p on the news.

The disappointing results, Mr Patrick Radford, chairman, said yesterday, were due to the extremely competitive trading conditions arising from the recession. This had particularly affected trading at the lower-priced end of the market.

Although trading remained difficult, there had been a slight improvement in January when many retail stores reported successful sales. This strengthened the group's order book, but no further improvement is expected overall until the autumn, he said.

Last year the group closed the Stag Cabinet branch factory at Kingston-upon-Thames but it has continued to be used for self-assembly furniture manufacture and dining room chairs. These activities will now be concentrated at Nottingham where the group has recently acquired more land for development.

The sale of the Kingston factory will be completed in July with a cash payment of £1m and after meeting all factory closure costs, is expected to yield a net surplus of £400,000.

AB Electronic loses £565,000

By Our Financial Staff

A.B. Electronic Products Group has dropped sharply into the red for the six months to the end of last December. It is the first time the group has made a loss in the opening half.

Pretax profits dropped from £395,000 to a loss of £565,000 on a turnover barely changed at £10.4m.

The group has carried out rationalizations and the board say that, although costly, this will ensure continued recovery. The group says that adequate finance is available, and a medium-term loan facility of £1.5m has not yet been drawn.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9½%, up to £50,000 9¾%, over £50,000 10¼%.

IMI 1980 Results

Year ended 31 December 1979 £000		Year ended 31 December 1980 £000
611,977	Group sales to external customers	628,582
34,536	Group profit before taxation	28,240
3,262	Taxation	5,693
29,366	Earnings after tax applicable to IMI Limited	23,492
(9,169)	Dividends	(9,387)
250,379	Net tangible assets	253,182

Notes

1. The recommendations of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies regarding accounting for foreign currency translations have been adopted for 1980. Profits and losses of overseas companies for 1980 have been translated into sterling at the average rates applicable to their accounting periods.

   Exchange differences arising from the re-translation of the opening net investment in these companies and their retained earnings for the year into sterling at the rates of exchange at 30 September 1980 have been taken directly to reserves.
2. The Group's share of the profits, less losses, of major associated companies amounting to £0.6 million (1979: £2.1 million) has been included in profit before taxation.
3. Provision has been made for the payment of a bonus of £1.8 million (1979: £2.2 million) to employees participating in the IMI profit sharing scheme.
4. The charge for taxation comprises

	£million
UK Corporation Tax	(0.3)
Overseas Taxes	5.0
Release of deferred taxation provisions no longer required	(10.5)
Advance Corporation Tax written off	11.3
Adjustment for previous years	0.2
	5.7

The UK Corporation Tax credit has been calculated on the basis of a rate of 52%. The proposals of the Consultative Document on Stock Appreciation Relief issued by the Board of Inland Revenue in November 1980 have been adopted. The provision for deferred tax on Stock Appreciation Relief has been wholly released and Advance Corporation Tax which is not presently recoverable has been written off, including £4.0 million in respect of dividends for 1980.

The effect of Stock Appreciation Relief combined with accelerated capital allowances and other timing differences has been to reduce the tax charge by £6.6 million (1979: £6.3 million).

5. This year the effects of inflation have been calculated in line with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 16. This indicates that current cost profits before taxation amounted to £7.7m.

Dividends

The Directors recommend a final dividend of 2.5p per Ordinary Share, payable on 8 May 1981 to shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 9 April 1981, which will absorb £5,215,000 (1979: £5,210,000). Together with the interim dividend of 2.0p per share paid on 20 October 1980, this makes a total of 4.5p per share (1979: 4.4p per share).

Brief Review of Activities

Compared with 1979, sales volume fell by rather more than 5 per cent but sales value increased by 3 per cent to £629 million. Most of this increase was in exports from the UK which amounted to £135 million, 19 per cent higher than in 1979. Sales by our overseas manufacturing units increased by 7 per cent in terms of sterling and home sales fell by 3 per cent. Profits before tax were 18 per cent lower at £28.2 million, after charging approximately £5 million for redundancy and reorganisation costs.

Increased UK profits were derived from titanium, refinery operations, alloy tube and from a number of smaller activities including the IMI Mint, Broderick roofing and cladding and IMI Marston's aircraft products. Overseas, special purpose valves did well in France and our Australian operations also achieved higher profits. The fluid power operations overall held up reasonably well. After a good first quarter many other activities were affected by the UK recession, in particular heat exchange, building products and copper semis. Eley ammunition and the LF/Opti Zip Fastener Group continued to experience particularly difficult trading conditions.

Rights Issue

The Directors of IMI have also announced that arrangements are in hand to raise approximately £27.5 million (net of expenses) by means of a rights issue of 59,598,520 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 48p per share. Documents are being posted to shareholders on 20 March 1981.

Building Products **Heat Exchange**
Fluid Power **General Engineering**
Zip Fasteners **Refined and Wrought Metals**

IMI Limited, P.O. Box 216, Witton, Birmingham, B6 7BA

Boosey & Hawkes buys BCI for £4m

By Philip Robinson

Boosey & Hawkes, the music publisher and instrument maker, has beaten an unnamed group of American investors to buy New York-based Buffet Crampon International (BCI) for around £4m cash.

BCI, whose shares are quoted on the New York over-the-counter market, makes and distributes high quality woodwind and string instruments and is 67 per cent owned by three banks and an American institution, which have agreed in principal to sell Boosey & Hawkes their shares.

But Boosey has yet to go through the BCI books and will not announce how it will finance the deal until it sends shareholders a letter in early May, after its preliminary figures, report and accounts.

It is offering $7.35m (about £3.3m) for the 67 per cent stake and $7 of loan stock and $0.96 a share for the remaining 33 per cent of shares which are more widely held. The unnamed group was offering $7.34m for the major stake and loan stock and a $1 a share for the rest.

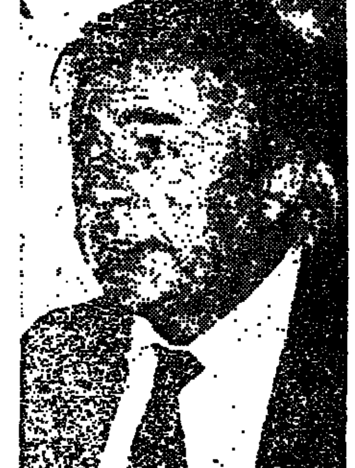
Mr Michael Boxford, chief executive of Boosey, said: "I appreciate it is a long time before we will be in a position to send a letter to shareholders. But I don't think there is going to be a fight over this."

Net asset value of BCI is put at about £3.6m. For the six months ending last June the group made a pretax profit of £100,000 on a turnover of £5m.

Although based in America, BCI's three factories are in Europe, one in France and two in Germany, and employ 600 people. BCI would give B&H a world wide distribution network.

SGB Group annual meeting: Shareholders of the international plant and services group were told yesterday by the chairman, Mr Neville Clifford-Jones, that there was nothing but the recession to blame for the present poor trading conditions.

Mr Clifford-Jones, pictured at the meeting, said that the group had experienced a poor first half due particularly to the long Christmas holiday period which had put customers off hire and placing orders. Virtually no profit had been recorded for December, he said, and January had been nearly as bad.



Briefly

Jamaica Sugar Estates: Turnover year to Sept 30 £114,000 (£206,500). Pretax profit £30,000 (loss £28,000). Eps 0.90p (loss 0.89p). No div (same).

Shackleton Petroleum Corporation: On the basis of the results to date of its exploration and development drilling programme in Canada and the United States, the board of Shackleton have decided that the company should expend the balance of the net proceeds of the issue of 10.5m shares in conjunction with the continued exploration and development programme of Czar Resources. In reaching this decision the board has considered the independent valuation of the assets of Shackleton which was prepared as at December 31, 1980, and subsequent drilling results.

Unilever Ltd plans to float off 15 per cent of its subsidiary, PT. Unilever Indonesia, through a share offer to the Indonesian public, with a prospectus expected late in August. The company said the issue is likely to consist of about 8.5m common shares with a nominal value of 1,000 rupiahs each, contingent on Government approval. Unilever expects the offering to raise the equivalent of some $35m (US).

Alexanders Holdings: Chairman says in his annual statement that many factors make it difficult to prognosticate on future, but company is strong from an asset point of view (28p per share) and is well positioned to take full advantage of this when the economy returns to normal. When interest rates fall, leading to the end of the recession, company can look forward to increased profitability.

Local Authority Bonds: Interest rate on this week's issues of local authority yearling bonds is 12⅜ per cent. Issue price 100.

Burma Mines: Gross income for year to December 31, £166,000 (£150,000) Pretax profit £144,000 (£122,000). EPS 0.729p (0.626p). Nav 18.4p (15.2p). Dividend 0.75p net (0.625p). Mr R. Morrison resigned from board as result of his entering into a service agreement with Planned Savings Holdings, that precludes him from holding outside directorships.

London Scottish Finance Corporation: Interim 0.85p (0.75p). Turnover for half-year to January 27 £3.759m (£3.227m). Pretax profit £406,500 (£351,000) after finance costs £568,000 (£487,000).

Crown House has sold its office development at Bromley, Kent, to a city institution for £1.55m. This property which was developed to provide 11,000 sq ft of office space was let at a rental of £79,850 per annum.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	1980/81 Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	64	—	6.7	10.5	5.8
50	21	Armitage & Rhodes	50	—	1.4	2.8	20.5
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	94	—	5.5	5.9	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	107	+1	6.4	6.0	3.4
110	39	Frederick Parker	42	—	1.7	4.0	18.3
110	74	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	+1	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	117	—	7.9	6.8	9.6
334	244	Robert Jenkins	324	−1	31.3	9.7	—
55	50	Scruttons 'A'	51	—	5.3	10.4	3.7
224	215	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	10½	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	47	—	3.0	6.4	7.2
103	81	Walter Alexander	99	−1	5.7	5.8	5.5
263	181	W. S. Yeates	261	—	12.1	4.6	4.3

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Pittard reports increase in demand

By Catherine Gunn

West country tanner Pittard Group made a £521,000 pretax loss in 1980, but has maintained its dividend because of a £587,000 tax credit and an extraordinary credit of £414,000. The total dividend is 5.71p gross. The shares held their ground at 47p yesterday. Group profits in 1979 were £1.49m. With faint signs of improving demand now, Mr Neil Wood, chairman, thinks a first-half profit this year is possible.

Trading grew progressively harder last year. Cheap imports of leather from South America and India and of finished leather goods from Comecon countries again undercut EEC prices. In the United Kingdom the strong pound reduced export margins and retailers and manufacturers began de-stocking from April as demand fell with lower consumer spending. Meanwhile, hide and skin prices fell sharply, causing stock losses of £1m by the December 31 year-end.

Mr Wood said yesterday that there were faint signs of re-stocking by manufacturers, mainly in glove leather where margins are highest. About 30 per cent of the group's leather went into gloves last year, with 50 per cent sold to shoe manuing and upholstery manufacturers, who took a lower proportion in 1980 than normally. Mr Wood aims to split group sales evenly between these three markets eventually. Leather prices were also showing signs of improvement, he said.

Sales at £18.3m last year fell nearly 23 per cent both in volume and value. Trading profits fell from £2.32m to £402,000, while interest costs rose 12.3 per cent to £626,000. Mr Wood expected interest charges to fall by £300.000 in 1981, reflecting lower MLR and reduced borrowings. Borrowings stand at £3m now, against £2.2m at the end of 1979. The proceeds of the sale of the Beckenham site will reduce borrowings.

Property sale aids Waring & Gillow

By Margareta Pagano

Results from Waring & Gillow, the furniture and carpet retailers, for the six months to September reflect both difficult trading conditions and major changes within the company since its acquisition last year of Maples.

Trading profits of £586,000 were reported compared with £2.12m last time. But the addition of £3.06m of exceptional credit from the sale of property boosted pretax profits to £2.84m after an extraordinary item of £578,000 covering the losses from the clothing division and factory closures.

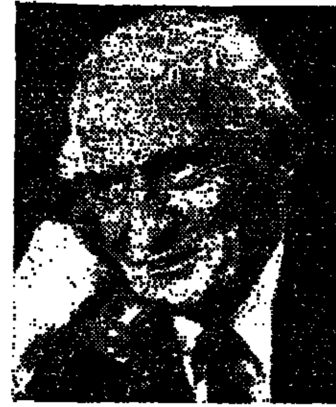
On the profits of £2.84m a reserve for taxation of about £928,000, against £1.1m last year, has been made. Some £229,000 was transferred to the deferred profit reserve to cover outstanding hire purchase debts before striking the pretax figure. Sales rose to £41.22m against £29.7m. The interim dividend has been maintained at 2.14p gross.

Mr Manny Cussins, chairman, said yesterday that trading profits at Waring's furniture division were affected by increased profits were more than halved costs and static sales. Trading at £909,000 compared with £2.2m last time. Results from Maples, acquired last May, have been included, but its UK division lost £74,000 and its overseas stores made losses of £190,000.

Losses in Waring's clothing division total £59,000. By the summer the group will have closed the last of its six factories, which at a peak three years ago employed 2,000 people.

Mr Cussins added that the second half of the year is traditionally better for the furniture industry and recent trading has shown some improvement. January and February were relatively buoyant and Maples is expected to contribute significantly to profits in the full year.

Total property sales amounted to £10.3m over the period. This has been used to reduce the group's overdraft.



Mr Manny Cussins, chairman at Waring & Gillow.

Auchinleck in £1.3m bid for BSF

Auchinleck Investment, a private Scottish textile group, has made a £1.3m offer for Bond Street Fabrics (BSF) which received an unwelcome £750,000 bid from its main shareholder, Grovebell, earlier this month.

The new bid, which is agreed by the BSF board, offers 40p a share and 67p for the convertible loan stock in Bond Street which closed down its Leicester manufacturing operation at the beginning of the year and is now left with two Scottish factories making knitwear. Grovebell offered 27p a share.

Grovebell has been a Bond Street shareholder for two years and currently holds 29 per cent of the equity. Mr Vasant Advani, its chairman, said yesterday that the board would make a decision on its next step when it had seen the information presented to Auchinleck on Bond Street's trading position.

"Under Rule 12 of the Takeover Code we are entitled to see figures that have not been available to us until now so we can decide to accept the offer, increase our own or do nothing", he said.

Canadian oil shares for London

A newly incorporated Canadian company, Falmouth Petroleum, is making an issue of shares, and dealings will be permitted in London.

Laurence, Prust and Company and Vivian Gray and Company have undertaken to seek subscribers for a maximum of 2 million common shares of Falmouth at $2 per share payable in full on application. The issue is not being underwritten.

Listing has been granted by the Vancouver Stock Exchange, and subject to the filing of final documentation and satisfactory evidence of distribution, dealings will be permitted on the London Stock Exchange under rule 163(1) (e).

Bronx expects loss for first half

A lack of orders has forced the Bronx Engineering Holdings group to make about 20 per cent of its staff redundant and bring in short time working. The group expects a first-half loss after a year in which profits dropped from £624,000 to £507,000 before tax. Turnover for the year to November 30 rose from £11.2m to £14.8m. The gross dividend was 1.54p against 1.5p.

The board says that a loss for the first half of the current year is almost certain. It is also unlikely that the group will recover sufficiently for a reasonable profit level to be made by the year end.

McLaughlin raises payout and tops £1m

McLaughlin & Harvey has raised its gross dividend for 1980 from 4.28p to 7.5p. Turnover for the year went up from £34.7m to £46.3m and pretax profits from £980,000 to £1.2m. There was a tax credit of £603,000 against a charge of £417,000.

Exchange losses took £264,000 compared with £30,000. Earnings per share were 44.9p against 14.3p.

CCA profits attributable to shareholders were £1,311,000.

The results adopt the stock relief provisions to be proposed in the 1981 Finance Bill.

Avana confirms forecast

Avana Group, whose bitterly contested takeover bid for "Golly" jams group Robertson Foods closes on Friday March 20, has issued a statement confirming its recent profit forecast of £5.4m pretax.

Avana fell foul of certain technicalities in the Takeover Code by omitting the profit forecast and a directors' responsibility statement in a recent circular to Robertson shareholders. The Takeover Panel asked Avana to put this right.

Marchwiel to float S African offshoot

Marchwiel, the Cheshire-based building and civil engineering concern, is making, in South Africa, a public offer of shares in its offshoot there, Alfred McAlpine and Son. After the offer, which has been underwritten by Hill Samuel (S.A.), an application will be made to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange for a listing. The shares are being offered at 310 cents each, at which the company is capitalized at R31m (about £16m). Following completion of the offer, Marchwiel will own 70 per cent of the capital of McAlpine S. A. The net proceeds will be about R8.8m (£4.4m) which will be employed elsewhere in the group.

Euroflame tries again for USM quotation

By Philip Robinson

Euroflame Holdings, whose plans to come to the unlisted securities market were delayed when the chairman mentioned a profits forecast which was not in the formal documents, is ready to try again for a quote.

A revised prospectus was lodged with the Stock Exchange's Quotations Committee on Monday and it is expected that a decision on whether to allow Euroflame to market on that prospectus is due later this week.

Dealings in the 1.1 million shares, placed at 30p to raise £330,000, were due to start on February 25. But five days earlier Mr John Viall, chairman, said at a press conference that he would be disappointed if profits this year were less than £450,000.

The remark was published in several newspapers and the Stock Exchange demanded that a formal forecast be included in the prospectus. A spokesman for Tring Hall Securities, the issuing house which plans to retain a 53 per cent stake in Euroflame, said: "We are currently going through the Stock Exchange procedures".

The delay in placing the shares, which has meant an audit and a reprint of the prospectuses, is thought to have added £3,000 to the original £60,000 cost.

First-quarter sales record for Sony

International

Sony Corporation reports that consolidated sales rose to a record 261,160m yen (£563m) for the first quarter to January 31 from 221,960m yen a year earlier.

Consolidated net income remained high at 20,120m yen, up from 19,530m a year earlier, while earnings per depositary share were 92 yen against 91 yen.

In the first quarter the value of the yen showed a sharp rise from a year earlier, causing a substantial reduction in the book value of consolidated net sales. This in turn made for a corresponding rise in the cost ratio.

The Sony board said that negative factors were more than offset by brisk sales of portable stereo cassette players, the Betamax and other video equipment.

Another offsetting factor was substantial translation gains from converting financial statements of Sony's overseas subsidiaries into yen, and also currency exchange gains due to forward contracts.

Bayernverein holds payout

Bayerische Vereinsbank has announced an unchanged dividend of 9 Deutsche marks (£1.9) per 50-mark par value share for 1980. It is also planning a stock increase. The payout will be made on 400m mark par value stock capital, up from 360m marks in 1979.

The bank said in Munich yesterday that it is proposing to raise the stock capital to 450m-mark par value using 50m marks in authorized capital for the increase.

Lend Lease plans disposal

Australia Square, the Sydney landmark, may be sold to General Property Trust.

The seller, Lend Lease Corporation, the property developer, is negotiating disposal of the 50-storey headquarters tower to GPT, which is a close associate. Independent valuations are being sought by both parties. Australia Square is Lend Lease's remaining property investment and was last valued by the group internally at $A52m (about £27m). A much higher price is now expected.

Business appointments

Two for Sterling board

Mr J. V. Strong and Mr W. Scanlan have been appointed to the board of Sterling Estates.

Mr A. J. Shepperd has been appointed deputy chairman of Wood Hall Trust.

Mr Chris Masters has been appointed head of syndications section in National Westminster Bank's international banking division.

Mr T. G. Kent, deputy chief executive of the corporation's dynamics group, has been appointed to the board of British Aerospace.

Mr J. M. Woolley has been appointed an assistant managing director of Dickinson Robinson Group.

Mr Stephen P. Hayklan becomes chairman and group managing director of Wiggins Construction after the retirement of Mr Cyril C. Wiggins who has been appointed president. Mr P. D. Warren becomes deputy chairman. J. A. C. Edwards has been appointed to the board as construction director.

Mr F. Clive Wilkinson has been appointed a director of Yorkshire Bank Finance and Yorkshire Bank Leasing.

Mr Sidney Wild is to become chairman of Yorkshire Bank.

Mr Michael Weeden has been appointed managing director of Inmac UK.

Mr T. M. Mosson has been appointed general manager, and Mr Alan Peers assistant general manager (operations) in the personnel division of William & Glyn's Bank.

Mr Roger P. French has been admitted to partnership in Deloitte Haskins & Sells management consultants.

Professor A. R. Williamson, Gardiner Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Glasgow, has been appointed research director of the Greenford division of Glaxo Group Research.

Mr John Ashcroft of Coloroll has been elected president of the Wallcovering Manufacturers Association of Great Britain.

Sir Anthony Salt has been appointed chairman of Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin & Company.

Mr Kenneth Linfoot has been appointed managing director of the property division of Espley-Tyas Property Group.

Mr Nigel Judah has been appointed finance director of Reuters and becomes one of three executive members of the board.

Mr Freddy Salinger has been appointed a director of Anglo Factoring Services on his retirement from Griffin Factors.

Lord Hartwell has resigned from the board of LWT (Holdings). Mr Leon Page, joint managing director of Page and Moy (Holdings), has been appointed to the LWT board.

Mr D. Gordon Towler has been appointed a director of John Crowther Group. Mr John Ray is now group company secretary.

Sir Jack Rampton has been appointed a director of London Atlantic Investment Trust.

Mr Richard Hill has been appointed chairman of Helical Bar, with Mr Laurence Kelly appointed deputy chairman.

Anglo-Indonesian claims 40 pc of Eva

Acceptances received of the offer for Eva Industries by Anglo-Indonesian (AIC) amounted to 328,398 ordinary of Eva (3.51 per cent). AIC and its subsidiaries owned 2.58m ordinary shares in Eva (27.57 per cent) before the offer and has purchased a further 347,000 such ordinary shares (3.71 per cent) during the offer period.

People acting in concert with AIC own a further 830,160 ordinary (8.87 per cent). The combined shareholding of AIC and those acting in concert with it (exclusive of acceptances) now total 40.15 of Eva's ordinary share capital. The offer has been extended to 3.30 pm on March 30.



MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER bars were steady; cathodes quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £813-16.00 a metric ton; three months, £834.50-35.00. Sales, 5,350. Cash cathodes, £809-11.00; three months, £822-24.00. Sales, 50 tons. Morning.—Cash, wire bars, £814.50-815.50; three months, £834.50-835.50. Settlement, £815.50. Sales, 7,350 tons. Cash cathodes, £810-811.00; three months, £823-824.00. Settlement, £811.00. Sales, 750 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady, quiet; high-grade was idle.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,090-6,100 a tonne; three months, £6,170-75. Sales, 420 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,090-6,100; three months, £6,170-75. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,110-6,120; three months, £6,180-6,190. Settlement, £6,120. Sales, 875 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,110-6,120; three months, £6,180-6,190. Settlement, £6,120. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works was unchanged yesterday at 30.21 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £319-20.00 per tonne; three months, £325-26.00. Sales, 2,200 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £324-325; three months, £326-327.00. Settlement, £325.00. Sales, 5,450 tonnes.

ZINC was steady, quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £340-41.00 per tonne; three months, £349-49.50. Sales, 3,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £337-337.50; three months, £346-347.00. Settlement, £337.50. Sales, 2,123 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £218.95 ($495.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 550.65p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,232.00); three months, 567.15p (1,285.50c); six months, 585.10p (1,335.20c); one year, 616.90p (1,419.20c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 542.5-43.5p; three months, 559.0-60.0p. Sales, 1,925 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 550-552.0p; three months, 567-567.5p. Settlement, 552.0p. Sales, 58 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steadier at the close.—Afternoon.—Cash, £651-52.00 per tonne; three months, £660-60.50. Sales, 1,925 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £645-647.00; three months, £656.50-657. Settlement, £647.00. Sales, 4,550 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,800-10 per tonne; three months, £2,785-90. Sales, 72 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,790-2,800; three months, £2,780-2,785. Settlement, £2,800. Sales, 126 tonnes.

RUBBER was easier yesterday (pence per kilo).—April, 58.10-59.00; May, 59.30-59.50; April-June, 59.30-59.50; July-Sept, 62.60-62.80; Oct-Dec, 65.70-65.80; Jan-March, 68.60-68.80; April-June, 71.50-71.80; July-Sept, 74.10-74.30; Oct-Dec, 77.00-77.10. Sales, 566 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were slightly easier yesterday (all pence per kilo).—Spot.—57.00-58.50.—Cifs: April, 61.00-61.50; May, 61.50-62.25.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne).—March, 988-990; May, 1,012-1,013; July, 1,024-1,025; Sept, 1,037-1,038; Nov, 1,039-1,040; Jan, 1,037-1,043; March, 1,034-1,037. Sales: 4,262 lots including 2½ options.

ARABICA (officials at 16.45).—April, 132.00-43.00; June, 130.00-34.00; Aug, 139.00-42.00; Oct, 140.00-43.00; Dec, 139.00-42.00; Feb, 138.00-42.00; April, 137.00-42.00. Sales: nil.

COCOA was steady (£ per metric ton).—March, 880-90; May, 946-47; July, 964-65; Sept, 985-86; Dec, 1,009-10; March, 1,031-32; May, 1,048-52. Sales: 2,574 lots, including two options.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £8.00 higher at £256; the "whites" price was £1.00 higher at £270. Futures (£ per tonne).—May, 239.10-39.20; Aug, 235.20-35.25; Oct, 232.50-32.75; Jan, 220.00-21.00; March, 220.40-20.45; May, 219.05-20.25; Aug, 219.90-20.05. Closing tone: Barely steady. ISA prices (March 16): daily, 21.09c; 15-day average, 22.03c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was slightly easier yesterday (£ per tonne).—April, 124.00-24.30; June, 124.90-25.20; Aug, 127.10-27.30; Oct, 129.20-29.50; Dec, 130.50-32.00; Feb, 131.00-35.00; April, 131.50-36.00. Sales: 154 lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo. March, 336-355; May, 349-365; Aug, 361-362; Oct, 362-369; Dec, 372-376; Jan, 375-378; March, 379-383; May, 382-395; Aug, 382-386.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring: No 2, 14 per cent, unquoted. US hard winter, 13½ per cent. March, £103.00; April, £102.50 trans-shipment east coast. EEC unquoted. English feed, fob: March: £116.50 paid east coast; May, £117; June, £118 east coast.

MAIZE.—US.—French: March-April, £125.50 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow, March-April, £87.00 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob. April, £103 paid east coast. May and June, £105.50 sellers east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady.—March, £97.45; May, £99.70; Sept, £94.45; Nov, £98.05; Jan, £101.75. Sales: 124 lots. WHEAT was steady.—March, £110.65; May, £112.25; July, £116.40; Sept, £97.50; Nov, £105.20; Jan, £107.15. Sales: 153 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£108.60	£96.00
S. West	—	—	—
W. Mid	£112.00	£108.30	£97.10
N. West	—	£109.70	£97.30

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 17:—Great Britain: Cattle, 88.60p per kg lw (+0.78). Great Britain: Sheep, 169.66p per kg est d c w (+5.66). Great Britain: Pigs, 69.61p per kg lw (+0.41). England and Wales: Cattle nos. down 12.0 per cent, ave price, 88.47p (+0.80). Sheep nos down 15.0 per cent, ave price, 170.78p (+8.00). Pig nos down 1.2 per cent ave price, 69.78p (+0.44). Scotland: Cattle nos down 14.6 per cent ave price, 88.98p (+0.75). Sheep nos up 15.1 per cent ave price, 167.01p (−0.77). Pig nos down 9.2 per cent ave price, 68.25p (+0.01).

No United Kingdom sheep prices due to holiday arrangements in Ireland.

POTATOES (Gafta):—April, £58.50; Nov, £57.00; Feb, £66.30. Sales: 68 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—*Home-produced*: A good market exists for all grades, with particular interest being shown in smaller sizes. *Imported*: A continued firm market still exists in other EEC countries.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand):

Brown	Wed Thur Fri	Mon Tues
1's	5.75 to 6.00	5.80 to 6.10
2's	5.35 to 5.50	5.45 to 5.60
3's	5.20 to 5.30	5.30 to 5.40
4's	5.00 to 5.10	5.10 to 5.30
White	**Wed Thur/Fri**	**Mon/Tues**
1's	5.60 to 5.70	5.60 to 5.70
2's	5.15 to 5.25	5.20 to 5.30
3's	5.00 to 5.20	5.10 to 5.20
4's	4.90 to 5.00	4.95 to 5.10
5's	4.70 to 4.90	4.80 to 4.95
6's	4.40 to 4.50	4.40 to 4.50
7's	3.60 to 3.70	3.60 to 3.70

Imported prices (in £)

French brown	Current arrivals
1's	5.40 to 5.50
2's	5.10 to 5.20
3's	5.00 to 5.10
4's	4.85 to 4.95

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

Bolivia's tin demands

New and harder demands from Bolivia called into question yesterday whether one of the world's leading tin producers would join the sixth International Tin Agreement under discussion in Geneva.

Bolivia wants prices under an agreement to be defended with a buffer stock of only 30,000 tonnes instead of the 50,000 which has been widely accepted.

The possibility of prices being depressed by stockpile sales, especially from the United States' General Services Administration, worry Bolivia as well. The country is the highest cost-producer.

Discount market

The discount houses needed only small-scale help yesterday and the signs were that calmer conditions will persist to allow an uneventful mid-month make-up for the banks today. Once the authorities had given their assistance, the situation eased—and late balances were being picked up at rates within a band of 11½ to 12 per cent. The Bank of England's help came via outright purchases of eligible bank bills from the houses.

Foreign exchange report

The dollar extended its decline on foreign exchange markets yesterday, although closing levels were well off the bottom. The pound finished with a gain of 110 points in terms of the dollar at $2.2490, after reaching a "high" on the day of $2.2600.

The "effective" exchange rate index closed 0.4 up at 99.9, following 99.8 at midday and 99.6 at the opening.

Once again, interest rates were the key factor. With Eurodollars easing further, and with more major United States banks lowering their prime rates to 17½ per cent, the dollar lost more ground initially. But profit-taking developed later in a thin and nervous market to lift the dollar off the bottom.

German marks firmed from 2.0905 to 2.0867, Swiss francs gained from 1.8990 to 1.8975 and French francs hardened from 4.9315 to 4.9170.

The Japanese yen eased from 207.05 to 207.30 in dollar terms. Japan's Discount Rate is down one point to 6¼ per cent with effect from today.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 17	Market rates (close) March 17	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2450-2600	$2.2485-2495	0.40-0.50c disc	1.25-1.35c disc
Montreal	$2.6650-6780	$2.6670-6680	1.08-1.18c disc	2.40-2.55c disc
Amsterdam	5.18-22fl	5.19¼-20¼fl	1¼-¾c prem	3¼-2¾c prem
Brussels	76.70-77.10f	76.85-95f	par-10c disc	13-23c disc
Copenhagen	14.73-78k	14.74½-75½k	90-240ore disc	505-670ore disc
Dublin	1.2815-2890p	1.2850-2865p	par-20p disc	35-60p disc
Frankfurt	4.68-71m	4.69¾-70¾m	¾pf prem-¼pf disc	1½-½pf prem
Lisbon	126.20-127.20e	126.50-70e	10c prem-60c disc	45c prem-165c disc
Madrid	190.00-191.40p	190.10-30p	10c prem-40c disc	85-135c disc
Milan	2282-92lr	2287-89lr	8¾-10¾lr disc	28½-31½lr disc
Oslo	12.02-10k	12.04¼-05¼k	100ore prem-40ore disc	345-190ore prem
Paris	11.05½-09½f	11.07-08f	2-1c prem	2½-1½c prem
Stockholm	10.25-33k	10.26½-27½k	385-455ore disc	1230-1310ore disc
Tokyo	462-70y	467-68y	220-175y prem	620-550y prem
Vienna	33.15-30sch	33.18-23sch	5gro prem-par	15-5gro prem
Zurich	4.25-29f	4.27¼-28¼f	2-1c prem	5¼-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared 1975 was 99.9, up 0.5.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9250-1.9400
Bahrein	0.8465-0.8495
Finland	9.0870-9.1370
Greece	114.05-116.05
Hongkong	11.8590-11.8990
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.6135-0.6165
Malaysia	5.0860-5.1160
Mexico	52.40-53.90
New Zealand	2.42-2.44
Saudi Arabia	7.5235-7.5535
Singapore	4.7075-4.7375
South Africa	1.7690-1.7840

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	99.9	−26.6
US dollar	99.1	−4.9
Canadian dollar	85.4	−17.7
Schilling	116.7	+22.7
Belgian franc	107.9	+9.7
Danish kroner	89.8	−10.0
Deutsche mark	121.2	+40.3
Swiss franc	135.8	+75.8
Guilder	112.7	+15.7
French franc	87.0	−9.6
Lira	61.0	−53.9
Yen	145.9	+41.8

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7450-1.7550
+ Canada	1.1861-1.1864
Netherlands	2.3100-2.3120
Belgium	34.15-34.18
Denmark	6.5550-6.5600
West Germany	2.0862-2.0872
Portugal	56.17-56.32
Spain	84.65-84.75
Italy	1016-1017
Norway	5.3500-5.3550
France	4.9160-4.9180
Sweden	4.5650-4.5700
Japan	207.35-207.55
Austria	14.76-14.78
Switzerland	1.9000-1.9015

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8429-0.8462

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate+	% change adjusted+*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6423	+4.66	+1.12	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.99263	+3.48	−0.06	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.54177	+2.40	−1.14	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.99661	+2.56	−0.98	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81360	+2.55	−0.99	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.696624	+4.25	+0.71	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1238.28	+6.95	+3.41	4.08

+ changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14-15; seven days, 14¼-14½; one month, 14⅛-14⅝; three months, 14⅞-15⅛; six months, 14^{11}/$_{16}$-14^{15}/$_{16}$.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $498.25 (an ounce); pm, $493.25 close, $492.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $506-509 (£224.75-226.25).
Sovereigns (new): $124-126 (55-56).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%
(Last changed 10/3/81)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%
Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 12 Low 11½
Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12	2 months	11⅞
3 months	11^{11}/$_{16}$	3 months	11^{9}/$_{16}$

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11^{27}/$_{32}$-11¾	3 months	12^{7}/$_{16}$
3 months	11^{23}/$_{32}$-11⅝	4 months	12^{5}/$_{16}$
4 months	11^{11}/$_{16}$-11^{9}/$_{16}$	6 months	11¾
6 months	11^{7}/$_{16}$-11^{5}/$_{16}$		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¼-13¾	7 months	12¾-12½
2 months	13⅞-13¼	8 months	12¾-12½
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12¾-12½
4 months	13-12⅝	10 months	12¾-12½
5 months	12⅞-12⅝	11 months	12¾-12½
6 months	12¾-12½	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	12^{11}/$_{16}$-12^{9}/$_{16}$	6 months	12¼-12⅛
3 months	12^{9}/$_{16}$-12^{7}/$_{16}$	12 months	12¼-12

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12⅞	3 months	12⅝
7 days	12⅞	6 months	12½
1 month	13¼	1 year	12½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12¾-12½ Close 12

1 week	12¾-12¼	6 months	12^{9}/$_{16}$-12⅜
1 month	12^{15}/$_{16}$-12⅞	9 months	12^{7}/$_{16}$-12¼
3 months	12^{13}/$_{16}$-12⅝	12 months	12^{5}/$_{16}$-12^{3}/$_{16}$

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¼ 6 months 13

Finance House Base Rate 14%

Wall Street

New York, March 17.—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed lower in heavy trading. The NYSE index fell 0.38 to 76.81 and the average price per share 18 cents. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 10.26 to 992.53, but advances edged declines 818 to 783 as volume swelled to 65,920,000 shares from 49,940,000 yesterday.

Among the blue chips, General Electric lost 1½ to 67¼. Du Pont 1¼ to 50⅝, Eastman Kodak 1¼ to 80¼, Minnesota Mining one to 61¼, Exxon 1⅞ to 69¼ and IBM ⅜ to 64¼.

United Steel Steel dropped one to 31¼ despite a forecast of higher first quarter and year profit. It cancelled plans to sell some coal properties to Standard Oil (Ohio) for $750m. Sohio rose ⅞ to 52⅞. Bethlehem Steel rose ⅜ to 30⅝.

Volume leader Sony Corporation dropped ⅜ to 17¼. It reported a small increase in fiscal first quarter profit. Active K. Mart, which reported lower fourth quarter net yesterday, eased ⅛ to 18⅞ and Sears Roebuck ⅞ to 16⅞.

Tenneco slipped ⅞ to 48½ despite news that it won a $1,500m order for attack submarines. General Dynamics said the loss of the contract to Tenneco would force extensive layoffs later this year. Dynamics eased ⅞ to 34¼. Citicorp gained ¼ to 23¼. It raised its dividend. Dayton Hudson reported sharply higher fourth quarter profit and gained 1½ to 53.

	Mar 17	Mar 16
Allied Chem	54⅞	54½
Allied Stores	23¾	24
Allis Chalmers	30¼	30½
Alcoa	36¼	36
Amax Inc	54⅞	55
Amerada Hess	37¼	36⅞
Am Airlines	14¼	15½
Am Brands	73¾	73¾
Am Broadcast	29⅝	29¾
Am Can	30¼	29⅞
Am Cyanamid	31⅞	31⅞
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16⅞
Am Home	31½	32½
Am Motors	4⅛	4⅛
Am Nat Res	47⅞	47⅝
Am Standard	36⅛	36⅞
Am Telephone	52⅝	52
AMF Inc	23½	23⅞
Armco Steel	40⅞	41
Asarco	41⅞	42⅞
Ashland Oil	37⅛	35½
Atlntic Richfield	54⅞	56¼
Avco	28⅛	28½
Avon Products	38⅞	39⅛
Bankers Tst NY	30½	31
Bank of America	28¼	28⅞
Bank of NY	36¼	37¼
Beatrice Foods	20½	20¾
Bendix	62	61½
Bethlehem Steel	30⅝	30¼
Boeing	35⅞	35¾
Boise Cascade	45⅞	40⅞
Borden	27½	28⅞
Borg Warner	41½	41½
Bristol Myers	53¾	55
BP	36⅞	34⅞
Burlington Ind	20⅞	24½
Burlington Nthn	64¼	65¼
Burroughs	52¼	52⅞
Campbell Soup	33¾	33½
Canadian Pacific	39½	39¼
Caterpillar	66⅞	67⅞
Celanese	66⅞	63
Central Soya	14⅛	14⅞
Chase Manhat	46⅞	46⅞
Chem Bank NY	32⅞	52⅞
Chrysler	5½	5⅞
Citicorp	23⅞	23¼
Cities Service	48⅞	50
Clark Equip	37	38⅞
Coca Cola	36½	37
Colgate	16½	16½
CBS	56⅞	57
Columbia Gas	38¼	38½
Combustion Eng	42⅞	43¼
Comwlth Edison	18⅞	19
Conoco	54⅞	55⅞
Cons Edison	23⅞	23½
Cons Foods	29½	29½
Cons Power	17⅞	17⅞
Continental Grp	36½	37¼
Control Data	66	65⅞
Corning Glass	68	69¼
CPC Intnl	66¼	67
Crane	44½	43⅞
Crocker Int	39⅞	39¼
Crown Zeller	50½	50½
Dart & Kraft	47⅞	46¾
Deere	44⅞	44½
Delta Air	71⅞	71
Detroit Edison	11¼	11⅞
Disney	58¼	58⅞
Dow Chemical	37⅞	37⅞
Dresser Ind	47½	49¼
Duke Power	17⅞	19
Du Pont	50⅝	51⅞
Eastern Air	9¼	9½
Eastman Kodak	80¼	81⅞
Eaton Corp	33⅞	34
El Paso Nat Gas	23⅞	23½
Equitable Life	10¼	10⅞
Esmark	62⅞	64¼
Evans P D	21½	20½
Exxon Corp	69⅛	71⅛
Fed Dept Stores	35½	35⅞
Firestone	11⅞	11⅞
Fst Chicago	15½	15⅞
Fst Nat Boston	38¼	37⅞
Fst Penn Corp	4¼	4½
Ford	23	23½
GAF Corp	13⅛	13
Gen Dynamics	34¼	34½
Gen Electric	67¼	68½
Gen Foods	33¾	34
Gen Mills	33⅞	34⅞
Gen Motors	52¼	51½
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅞	4⅞
Gen Tel Elec	29½	29½
Gen Tire	24½	25
Genesco	7	6¾
Georgia Pacific	31¼	31⅞
Getty Oil	75½	74½
Gillette	30	30¾
Goodrich	27⅞	27⅞
Goodyear	19¼	18⅞
Gould Inc	27⅞	27⅞
Grace	56¼	51¼
Gt Atltc & Pacific	5½	5½
Greyhound	17⅞	17⅞
Grumman Corp	27½	27⅞
Gulf Oil	35⅞	36⅞
Gulf & West	16⅛	16
Heinz H. J.	56½	56
Hercules	24¼	25⅞
Honeywell	105⅞	106½
IC Inds	31⅞	30½
Ingersoll	73⅞	73
Inland Steel	34½	35
IBM	64¼	64⅞
Int Harvester	19¼	19¼
INCO	22⅛	22⅞
Int Paper	50⅞	40¼
Int Tel Tel	31½	31⅞
Irving Bank	47½	48
Jewel Co	37⅞	37¼
Jim Walter	25½	26⅞
Johns-Manville	24⅞	24½
Johnson & John	103⅞	104¼
Kaiser Alumin	25	24⅞
Kennecott	53¼	52½
Kerr McGee	78¼	79⅞
Kimberly Clark	63⅞	63¼
K Mart	18⅞	18⅞
Kroger	26⅞	26⅞
L.T.V. Corp	25½	25½
Litton	70	70¼
Lockheed	26⅞	26¼
Lucky Stores	16½	16⅞
Manuf Hanover	33¼	33⅞
Mapco	39	40½
Marathon Oil	57	57
Marine Midland	17⅞	17¼
Martin Marietta	64¼	64¼
McDonnell	43⅞	43⅞
Mead	30	29½
Merck	84⅞	85
Minnesota Mng	61¼	62⅞
Mobil Oil	65⅞	68½
Monsanto	74⅞	76¼
Morgan J. P.	51⅞	52¼
Motorola	67	67½
NCR Corp	64½	65¼
NL Industries	65	67½
Nabisco	31½	31½
Nat Distillers	27¼	27¼
Nat Steel	29⅞	29
Norfolk West	45½	44½
NW Bancorp	30¼	30¼
Norton Simon	17⅞	17⅞
Occidental Pet	31⅞	31⅞
Ogden	33	34
Olin Corp	23½	24
Owens-Illinois	29½	29⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	21	20¾
Pan Am	4⅞	5
Penney J. C.	28⅞	29¼
Pennzoil	43	43½
Pepsico	33½	34¼
Pfizer	52½	53
Phelps Dodge	42⅞	42½
Philip Morris	50	50
Phillips Petrol	49	49¼
Polaroid	26⅞	27⅞
PPG Ind	39⅞	49⅞
Proctor Gamble	73¼	74½
Pub Ser El & Gas	18¼	18⅞
Rapid American	25½	25½
Raytheon	92¼	94½
RCA Corp	27⅞	28
Republic Steel	29¼	29⅞
Reynolds Ind	43½	44¼
Reynolds Metal	26⅞	26⅞
Rockwell Int	36¼	36⅞
Royal Dutch	41⅞	41⅞
Safeways	36⅞	36½
St Regis Paper	39⅞	40⅞
Santa Fe Ind	92½	93⅞
SCM	26⅞	26⅞
Schlumberger	99	102
Scott Paper	21	21¼
Seagram	54	54⅞
Sears Roebuck	16⅞	17½
Shell Oil	45⅞	46
Shell Trans	38	39½
Signal Co	29⅞	30
Singer	15⅞	16¼
Sony	17½	18¼
Std Oil Edison	25	25⅞
Southern Pacific	41½	42
Southern Rly	84¼	82⅞
Sperry Corp	57⅞	57½
Std Brands	27⅞	27⅞
Std Oil California	41⅞	42¼
Std Oil Indiana	68⅞	69⅞
Std Oil Ohio	52⅞	51⅞
Sterling Drug	24¼	25
Stevens J. P.	14	13⅞
Sunbeam Corp	18⅞	19⅛
Sun Comp	41⅞	40⅞
Teledyne	197½	200⅞
Tenneco	48½	49⅜
Texaco	37⅞	38½
Texas East Corp	55½	54
Texas Inst	115½	114⅞
Texas Utilities	17⅞	17⅞
Textron	31⅞	30⅞
TWA	22	22⅞
Travelers Corp	46¼	47⅞
TRW Inc	61⅞	60⅞
UAL Inc	25	23⅞
Union Carbide	59⅞	59⅞
Union Oil Calif	39½	40⅞
Un Pacific Corp	74	74½
Uniroyal	7	7⅞
United Brands	14½	14⅞
US Industries	9⅞	9⅞
US Steel	31⅞	32⅞
Utd Technol	54⅞	56⅞
Wachovia	23⅞	23⅞
Warner Lambert	21⅞	21⅞
Wells Fargo	26⅞	26½
Wes'n Bancorp	37⅞	37⅞
Westinghse Elec	30¼	31
Weyerhauser	38⅞	38
Whirlpool	24⅞	21⅞
White Motor	7½	7⅞
Woolworth	25½	25⅞
Xerox Corp	56⅞	58⅞
Zenith	16⅞	18⅞

Canadian Prices

	Mar 17	Mar 16
Abitibi	29	31⅞
Alcan Alumin	46½	46
Algoma Steel	45¼	45⅞
Bell Telephone	18⅞	18⅞
Comineo	69½	69
Cons Bathurst	27⅞	28⅞
Gulf Oil	22⅞	24⅞
Hawker Sid Can	24⅞	24
Hudson Bay Min	34⅞	34⅞
Hudson Bay Oil	21⅞	21⅞
Imasco	35⅞	35
Imperial Oil	32⅞	32⅞
Int Pipe	14⅞	15
Mass.-Fergsn	4⅞	4⅞
Royal Trust	21⅞	20⅞
Seagram	64⅞	65⅞
Steel Co	37½	37⅞
Thomson N 'A'	21	21⅞
Walker Hiram	26⅞	26⅞
WCT	14⅞	14⅞

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.2650 (2.2450); three months, 2.2700 (2.2500); Canadian dollar 1.1850 (1.1868).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 420.57 (416.90). The futures index was 430.36 (426.32).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 992.53 (1,002.79); transportation, 425.19 (427.13); utilities, 108.09 (108.55); 65 stocks, 384.73 (387.70).

New York Stock Exchange index, composite, 76.81 (77.19); industrials, 89.65 (90.25); transportation, 78.46 (78.67); utilities, 38.24 (38.19); financial, 75.14 (72.31).

US commodities

SILVER futures closed 42 to 40 cents higher. March, 1,270.00-1,275.00c; April, 1,282.00c; May, 1,285.00-1,290.0c; July, 1,331.00-1,310.00c; Sept, 1,371.50c; Dec, 1,400.00-1,415.00c; Jan, 1,426.00c; March, 1,453.00c; May, 1,480.00c; July, 1,502.00c; Sept, 1,554.00c; Dec, 1,602.00c.

GOLD futures were: CHICAGO IMM.—June, $591.10; July, $597.10; Sept, $609.00; Oct, $615.00; Dec, $627.00; Jan, $635.00; March, $645.10; April, $651.50; June, $665.50; July, $660.40. NY COMEX.—March, $505.00; April, $508.00-510.00; May, $514.50; June, $520.00-522.00; Aug, $530.00-535.00; Oct, $541.50-545.00; Dec, $557.00; Feb, $565.50; April, $578.50; June, $590.70; Aug, $602.60; Oct, $614.50; Dec, $626.50.

COPPER ended with pared gains of 0.50 to 1.05 cents. May added 0.95 cent to settle at 85.05 cents. March, 83.00c; April, 83.95c; May, 84.90-85.10c; July, 87.10-87.50c; Sept, 89.00c; Dec, 93.00c; Jan, 93.45c; March, 95.50c; May, 97.25c; July, 99.70c; Sept, 101.05c; Dec, 103.85c; Jan, 104.80c.

SUGAR futures rallied on commission house buying in moderate activity to close with gains of 1.01 cent in limitless July to 0.90 cent in deferred delivery contracts. The May 1981 contract gained 0.99 cent to close at 22.56 cents a lb. May, 22.51-22.60c; July, 22.50-22.55c; Sept, 22.15-22.27c; Oct, 22.10-22.17c; Jan, 20.75 bid-20.95c asked; March, 20.90-20.95c; May, 21.15c; July, 21.20 bid-21.50c asked.

COTTON futures were: May, 87.30-87.50c; July, 88.40-88.45c; Oct, 85.45c; Dec, 85.25-85.35c; March, 83.90 bid-84.00c asked; May, 84.40 bid-84.80c asked; July, 84.60 bid-85.00c asked.

COFFEE futures closed an extremely quiet session near day's lows, off 1.05 to 2.12 cents. Spot March which expires Friday lost least at 118.50 cents while near May slid 1.17 cent to 119.82 cents. March, 118.50c; May, 119.75-120.00c; July, 120.95-121.00c; Sept, 122.25c; Dec, 121.50-122.00c; March, 120.50-121.00c; May, 120.10-121.00c; July, 120.25c.

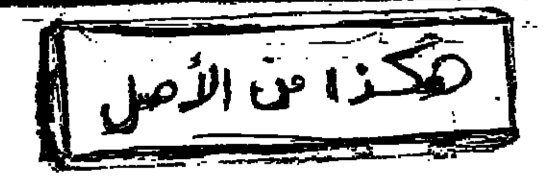
COCOA futures closed $10 to $20 lower. March, $2,055-2,020; May, $2,080-2,055; July, $2,125-2,100; Sept, $2,157-2,140; Dec, $2,212-2,190; March, $2,240-2,240; May, $2,263-2,283.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS. — Futures ended 15½ to 11½ cents a bushel higher in revived trade. Oil settled 0.30c to 0.20c a lb higher. Meal finished up $5.20 to $2 a ton. SOYABEANS.—March, 739½-729c; May, 797½-778c; Sept, 803-787c; Nov, 821-805c; Jan, 830½-822c; March, 850-842c. SOYABEAN OIL.—March, 23.02-23.00c; May, 24.40-24.45c; July, 25.22-25.35c; Aug, 25.50 bid-25.55c asked; Sept, 25.75c; Oct, 26.00c; Dec, 26.60c; Jan, 26.70c; March, 27.20 bid-27.55c asked; May, 27.80 bid-27.85c asked. SOYABEAN MEAL.—March, $215.00 bid-215.20 asked; May, $218.50-220.00; July, $226.00-227.00; Aug, $229.50 bid-230.00 asked; Sept, $231.50; Oct, $230.50-234.00; Dec, $237.50-237.00; Jan, $238.00; March, $245.00 bid-245.00 asked.

CHICAGO GRAINS. WHEAT futures closed up one cent a bushel in spot March to 10¾ cents a bushel higher in new crop. Corn futures closed at or near day's highs, up 6½c a bushel in spot March to ¾c higher in deferred March. OATS. March, 220½-226½c; Sept, 209½-208c; Dec, 210½-216½c. CORN. March, 354½-340c; May, 365½-355½c; July, 373-364c; Sept, 370-366c; Dec, 371-367¼c; March, 382½-377½c. WHEAT. March, 433½-427c; May, 442-431c; July, 446-431c; Sept, 459½-446c; Dec, 480-466c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



Stock Exchange Prices

Second liners in demand

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 16. Dealings End, March 27. § Contango Day, March 30. Settlement Day, April 6

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

SHIPPING

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
346	178	Brit & Comm	296	+3	17.9	6.0	7.5
338	228	Caledonia Inv	268	+4	17.8	6.7	..
208	116½	Fisher J.	170	−5	2.9	1.7	13.9
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	40	..	3.1	7.9	..
143½	85½	Ocean Trans	142½	+2	12.7	8.9	17.0
137	105	P & O 'Dfd'	133	+4	10.0	7.5	8.2

MINES

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£12½	+½	60.7	4.9	..
892	435	Anglo Am Corp	634	+6	48.0	7.6	..
58¾	30½	Ang Am Gold	£40[illegible]	[illegible]	653	16.0	..
56½	35[illegible]	Anglo Am Inv	£41¼	[illegible]	161	3.9	..
22	13½	Anglo Transvl	£16	..	144	8.0	..
22	13¼	Do 'A'	£18	..	144	8.0	..
25	13½	Asarco	£19	[illegible]	60.0	3.2	..
73	43	Beralt Tin	63	+1	7.1	11.3	..
12½	4½	Blyvoors	£7[illegible]	[illegible]	196	27.8	..
277	179	Bracken Mines	179	+3	38.8	21.7	..
29[illegible]	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£17½	[illegible]	419	24.0	..
350	213	CRA	251	−2			..
283	137	Charter Cons	228	−5	12.0	5.3	..
652	411	Cons Gold Fields	443	• −7	33.6	7.6	..

TEA

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	198	Assam Frontier	198	−1	14.3	7.2	..
455	350	Camellia Inv	420	• +2	7.1	1.7	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	312	..	21.4	6.9	..
332	253	Moran	270	..	4.6t	1.7	..
158	103	Surmah Valley	103	..	3.2	3.1	..
319	132¼	Warren Plant	210	+1	14.3b	6.8	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	28	..	6.8	24.2	..
34½	29½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£32¼	..	500	15.3	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£24	..	153	6.4	8.8
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	223	+5	10.1	4.5	10.5
185	93	Milford Docks	121	+11	9.8	8.1	..
175	88	Nesco Inv	175	+5	10.0	5.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£32½	..	500	15.4	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Bristol Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†b)	£12
British Aerospace 50p Ord (150)	175−1
Cystic Fibrosis Res'ch Inv Tst £1 (£1)	117+1
Do 5% Deb 1988 (£100)	69½−½
Espley-Tyas Prop Grp 25p Ord (75)	92+4
Exchequer 12% Cnv 1985 (†)	£98[illegible]
Exchequer 13½% 1990 (£95†)	£15¼
Exchequer 12¾% 'B' 1999 (†)	£[illegible]
Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£38¾
Mid-Sussex Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†)	£102½
New Darien Oil Trust 25p Ord (100)	117−1
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (42)	39
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£123¼
Sutton District Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 (†b)	£13[illegible]
TR Energy 25p Ord (£1)	100
Treasury 12% 1986 (†h)	£51¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Broken Hill Props (473‡)	Apr 20	245 prem−5

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid b. £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £15 paid.

Residential Property

Homes of unusual character

Most old houses have been added to at some time and it is this evolutionary process which produces the greatest character.

One such property which had an unusual number of additions is Chelsfield Court Lodge in Church Road, Chelsfield, Kent. Its appearance is in the Queen Anne style, but some of the original foundations may be Norman, and several additions were made in Georgian and Victorian times and now has a grade two listing as being of special architectural or historic interest.

It had periods of Crown ownership, but in this century owners have included the Asprey family and Coutts banking family.

There are five large reception rooms, a spacious farmhouse kitchen, eight bedrooms and four bathrooms. It stands in eight acres and includes three paddocks and a stable block which is believed to be suitable for conversion. Offers over £200,000 are being asked through Lintott Residential, of London.

Another successfully extended property is Glebe House at Selham, near Petworth in West Sussex. It is believed to date from about 1800 with additions made towards the middle of the 19th century, but the main part is clearly Georgian in style, with red brick walls and deep sash windows under a low-pitched slate roof. There is some tile hanging.

The accommodation is extensive and on the ground floor there are three reception rooms, a study, a playroom, and a housekeeper's flat; and there are six bedrooms, a dressing room and three bathrooms upstairs.

Outside there is a further small flat above former stabling and various other outbuildings. Partly walled gardens and grounds with some woodland extend to about four acres. The price is in the region of £140,000 and the agents are John D. Wood, of London.

Renby Grange at Boars Head, between Crowborough and Tunbridge Wells in East Sussex is thought to date from the 17th century and to have been associated with the iron working of the period. More recently, it was associated with early experiments in television transmission.

The oldest part is built in sandstone with an inner oak frame, but substantial additions were made in Victorian times and a 22ft ground floor studio and further bedrooms were added more recently.

There are now two reception rooms, a study, the studio, seven bedrooms, a dressing room and three bathrooms. The land, which includes a kitchen garden and orchard, runs to about four acres.

It is for sale for more than £145,000 and the agents are Clifford Dann and Partners of Uckfield. A separate three-bedroomed bungalow is also available.

At the other end of the same county is a house called Fletchers, at Sidlesham near Chichester. It is thought to have been built about 1712, but had a wing added in the early part of this century, although its appearance is in the Queen Anne style. Period features include some fine fireplaces, old oak beams and window shutters. It has three reception rooms, a large kitchen and breakfast room and five bedrooms and three bathrooms, including two suites.

There is an old Sussex barn which provides garaging for four or five cars, and a timber granary. There are about 5¼ acres of grounds which include a small lake and a pond. It is to come to auction in May unless there is a private sale, and is expected to realize between £140,000 and £180,000. The agents are Jackson-Stops and Staff, of Chichester.

The Dower House at Gisburn in the Ribble Valley, not far from Clitheroe, in Lancashire, is an attractive late Georgian property which, at an asking price of £80,000, shows the good value for money offered in the northern parts of the country compared to the expensive south.

It is a stone-built house with a slate roof and has four reception rooms, five bedrooms and three bathrooms. There are several outbuildings standing in about 2 acres of grounds and paddocks. The sale is through Savills' York office and Davis and Bowring of Gisburn.

Suffolk House, in the village of Lidgate between Bury St Edmunds and Newmarket is an unusually interesting smaller property with a grade two listing. The main part is believed to date from the 14th century and to have been associated with the poet John Lydgate, a pupil of Chaucer.

Glebe House, at Selham, near Petworth, West Sussex, for sale at about £140,000.

Additions and alterations have been made over the years, but much of the character has been retained. It has four reception rooms and four bedrooms and except for the kitchen, all the rooms have beamed ceilings, and the split-level sitting and dining room have inglenook fireplaces.

There are about two acres of gardens and grounds with a railed paddock and offers in the region of £97,500 are being asked through Smiths Gore of Newmarket.

Dingleden House in Benenden, Kent, which has a grade two listing, is believed to have its origins in the 15th century. It is a timber framed building with closely studded front walls, oversailing in places, and other period features.

It has a reception hall, two main reception rooms, a study, a garden room, four bedrooms and two bathrooms. It stands in about 3½ acres and has a sunken pond and a water garden and a paddock of some two acres. Offers in the region of £120,000 are being asked through Cluttons of London.

Another Kent property thought to date from the 15th century is Pedlars Castle in the picturesque village of Ide Hill near Sevenoaks. It has three reception rooms and a kitchen on the ground floor and four bedrooms. The whole house was modernized a few years ago.

A number of outbuildings are included in the grounds of about an acre. Offers over £78,000 are being asked through the Tunbridge Wells and Oxted offices of Bernard Thorpe and Partners.

Gerald Ely



Residential property



SAVILLS

CAMBS—LITTLE SHELFORD 163 ACRES

Cambridge 5 miles, Liverpool Street 65 minutes, Royston 11 miles, Kings Cross 53 minutes, M11 3½ miles.



One of the finest and most prestigious houses in the Cambridge area in a parkland setting together with a first class 148 Acre arable farm.

Lot 1—Hall, drawing room, dining room, sitting room, study, domestic quarters, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 4 bathrooms (including principal and 2 guest suites). Oil-fired central heating. Extensive outbuildings, including garaging and stabling. Attractive garden and especially fine timbered grounds. 3 paddocks. **About 15 Acres.**

Lot 2—Lodge with living room, 3 bedrooms and bathroom. Oil-fired central heating. Small garden. About 0.21 Acre.

Lot 3—Two farm cottages. Extensive farm buildings, including corn storage. 148 Acres of grade 2 arable land.

Available as a whole or in 3 lots.

The farm (lot 3) will not be sold before lot 1.

ROBERT ARNOLD & PARTNERS, 55 Regent Street, Cambridge. Tel: (0223) 358287.

SAVILLS, Country Residential Department, 5 Mount Street, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Tel: 01-499 8644.

OXFORDSHIRE

Henley-on-Thames 3 miles, M4 10 miles, London 43 miles.

Late Victorian Vicarage requiring modernisation in unspoilt rural position with fine views to the South.

3 reception rooms, playroom, 7 bedrooms. 3 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating. Flat. Outbuildings, stables, walled garden and timbered grounds.

About 1½ Acres.

Offers in the region of £95,000.

GIDDY & GIDDY, 14 Hart Street, Heney-on-Thames, Oxon. Tel: (04912) 2215/6.

SAVILLS, Country Residential Department, 5 Mount Street, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Tel: 01-499 8644.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE—ICOMB 137 ACRES

Stow-on-the-Wold 3 miles, Moreton-in-the-Marsh 7 miles, Cheltenham 18 miles.

Equestrian establishment of the highest standard situated in the heart of the Heythrop Hunt.

2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating. Staff flat. 2 stable yards. Ancillary farm buildings.

Pasture land extending to about 137 Acres.

Offers invited for the Freehold.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20 Hanover Square, London, W.1. Tel: 01-629 8171.

SAVILLS, 21 Horse Fair, Banbury, Oxfordshire. Tel: (0295) 3535.

SURREY—SEND

Woking 3 miles, Waterloo 28 minutes, Guildford 4 miles, A3 ½ mile.



Fine well-appointed house of 17th Century origin in a protected setting and offering especially fast access to London by road and rail.

4/5 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms (including principal suite), nursery suite, attic bedrooms with 4th bathroom. Oil-fired central heating. 3 car garage, secluded garden bounded by stream, hard tennis court, heated swimming pool.

About 9 Acres.

Excellent 3 bedroom modern bungalow may be available if required.

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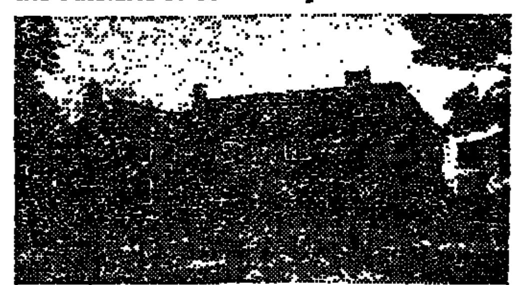
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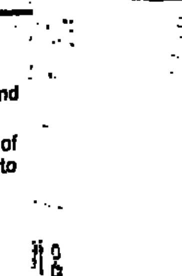
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Typing speeds of 70/80 wpm IBM System 6 or Xerox 850 trained. Fast moving, very flexible, expanding young company, with up-to-the minute technology and lively staff. Flexi hours West End location, high standard of service to the client. Come and look around?
Phone Edward Kalfayan on, 01-734 4115
LETTERSTREAM
45 Conduit St. Mayfair W1

GOOD GUINESS!

Chelsea
Super opportunity to work in lovely new offices with M.D. and Chairman of successful advertising group. You need good formal skills, background and lively personality. £6,000 p.a. 4 weeks hols.
Knightsbridge
Are you totally reliable and an experienced P.A./Sec., 28ish, with good formal skills, education and appearance, who would appreciate working in superb private mansion with executive whose responsibilities are considerable here and abroad. If so your opportunities are here at £6,800 p.a. neg.
City
Opportunity for P.A./Sec., 20s-30s, to join Senior Executive, City bank. Good English, formal skills, fluent French and knowledge of Spanish and/or Italian. Opportunity for increasing responsibilities and progressive career. £6,000 p.a. Mortgage facilities. Super fringe benefits.
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(Brompton Arcade is just a few steps from Knightsbridge Tube Station—Sloane Street Exit)
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New Bond Street, W.1 — £6,500 package

We are a fast expanding group involved in Personnel Selection, Advertising and Travel.
You should be organised, hard working and enjoy typing. Accuracy, good English and 70+ wpm are essential.
Excellent working environment. Latest IBM Self-Corrector. Good opportunities for promotion.
Please telephone: Mrs Reine Hinckesman, 123 New Bond Street, W.1. 01-499 7761.

ARABIAN GULF (U.A.E.)—Unusual opportunity.
The Job: Helping effect the smooth running of the various households of a high-ranking U.A.E. family (both in the U.A.E. and in the U.K.). Giving secretarial assistance with correspondence. Assisting with staff control and general family arrangements, Chauffeuring around and taking a very real interest in the well-being of 2 children (nanny in residence).
The Person: Single, well-educated, stylish and caring person. 35-50, well-versed in current affairs, cosmopolitan in outlook and able to assist in entertainment arrangements. A good car driver, happy to travel between households at short notice. Job based in U.A.E.
Salary: £8,000 p.a. negotiable, tax-free, plus food, accommodation and car.
Monica Grove Recruitment Consultants. 01-839 1082

SECRETARY PA
£8,000 neg. + Bonus

A proficient Secretary/PA is sought by a Managing Director of this International company based in Central London. An excellent understanding of French, "O" level education and an impressive career history hopefully within a technical/commercial environment are the main requirements along with the enthusiasm and dedication to work from 10-7. Call
Lana Jeffers, 408 1831 (West End) or Pat Middleton 283 6033 (City).
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OUR SELECTION—YOUR CHOICE

KNIGHTSBRIDGE: Young property company needs super secretary for Director. £6,000 +.
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TO £7,000

Would you describe yourself as a perfectionist? Can you write a grammatically correct letter and present it perfectly? As Secretary to the M.D. of a very successful, high technology company, you will need to be well-educated and mature (preferably over 30) with an eye for detail and an ear to hear a mistake with!!
Tel. Maureen Croughan.
SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

SEC TO MD
£6,500

The Managing Director of this well-known advertising agency in W.1. needs a responsible, mature Secretary aged 30-35. Good secretarial skills (100/60) and numeracy with a good stable working background are important, i.e., you have occupied one post in the last 3 to 4 years. Ring Helen Clark.
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Recruitment Consultants
173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

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A superb PA/Sec is required by small, successful advertising agency. It's a "team" effort so as well as assisting the MD you will be helping the copy writers and account handlers. Smart appearance, good telephone manner and a sense of humour essential to cope in all sorts of hectic situations. 25-28ish, good speeds.
For this and many other interesting vacancies please ring Nicola Cowley at
NEW VENTURE
(Personnel Consultants)
63 South Molton Street, W1
01-629 5747

SEC/P.A. FINANCE
£6,750

Young, dynamic American VP of International co. seeks top Sec/PA. Are you 25-35? Have you enjoyed working at director level in a large organisation? If so, and you are efficient with 100/60 sec skills, you could be on your way to working in an exciting international environment.
LUCY MARKS PERSONNEL
21 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4LR
Telephone: 01-930 5051

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PA/Secretary, 25 plus, at Director level in Park Lane, to be involved with wine, food & other interests. Salary £5,500-£6,000 AAE plus benefits.
Phone 01-629 9933
(Ref AM/SM)

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c £6,500

The Director of Finance and Administration of this W1 Co. needs a SUPER PA/SEC (110/70) who will be responsible for the development within his department, and appreciate the tact and confidentiality this top position requires. Please ring Jane Webster.
ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
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PARIS

P.A./Secretary (24+) with fluent FRENCH to assist in setting up new offices for educational establishment in attractive location on western fringe of Paris. Graduate preferred with good secretarial experience, administrative ability and a talent for communication. Salary in region of FF7,000 p.m. and excellent conditions.
Multilingual Services
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01-836 3794/5
Recruitment Consultants

BANKING
£5,500 + MORTGAGE
+ EXCELLENT PERKS

We have a vacancy in the exciting, fast-moving and highly confidential world of Corporate Finance working as a Secretary and Personal Assistant.
If you are in your early twenties, well-educated, enthusiastic and ambitious with speeds of 100/60 please phone David Dene.
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Recruitment Consultants
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01-606 1611

MAYFAIR
£6,500

A substantial "blue chip" organisation requires an experienced secretary for their senior Legal Adviser. Must have Commercial Law experience and good shorthand and typing skills. A very interesting and demanding position for someone who wishes to work in a sophisticated and stimulating environment. 25 to 40. Good fringe benefits.
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£6,000+
Secretarial PA

Secs. with experience and good skills (23 to 30 years) required for following vacancies.
P.R.—P.A. for M.D and board dir. of rapidly expanding Co. in West End.
Advertising—Competent, experienced and flexible P.A. to run small office.
Insurance — Top insurance broker in West End needs outgoing and responsible P.A.
City—2 interesting, demanding and unusual jobs for small co.
Please ring Jane on 589 9183/1617
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required for busy private medical practice in W1. Must be meticulous, adaptable and capable working as part of a team dealing with a multi racial society. Minimal shorthand and typing, but successful applicant must be proficient in these skills. Hours 9.30-5.30. Salary £5,000.
Telephone 01-935 5948

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Our clients, a small W1 Advertising Agency with a number of famous name accounts seek a PA/Sec. Help play an important role in the running of a very busy and highly creative group. Good sec skills essential. Free lunch, modern offices.
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DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Join our small group of young, International Shipbrokers, in W.1, as the P.A./Shorthand Secretary to the Director. Your duties will be varied and interesting and you should be 23+, well organized and have a good telephone manner. Salary £5,500. Travel loan, bonus, LV's, 4 weeks' holidays.—Please ring Diana Kendall on
01-499 9831

P.A./SECRETARY

Small expanding financial consultancy seeks a motivated P.A./Secretary for its Managing Director. Qualities must include ability to function under pressure, good humour, efficiency and determination. Rewards will include total job satisfaction and salary in the region of £6,000.
Phone now. 405 2480.

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Experienced in and willing to undertake all duties in small, flexible general export office located in City. Good all round office experience required. Mature person preferred. Excellent salary negotiable.
Please write to
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Secretary required for small investment company. Must be pleasant and efficient and able to take complete responsibility of office. Knowledge of French desirable, but by no means essential. Salary £5,000 approximately, according to experience.
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or 253 8984

Career minded Sh/Administrator—with relevant experience—sought for numerate and varied administrative duties within small American stockbroking firm. Rare opportunity of actual dealing for U.K. institutional client! £7,500 or more for exceptionally qualified person. Monica Grove Recruitment Consultants, 839 2186.

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Tel. 01-409 0932

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International firm of surveyors and valuers require a Secretary. Applicants must have a good telephone manner, be well presented and with good secretarial skills especially typing and audio. If you can work on your own initiative and have a flexible, friendly nature please contact us now. We offer a competitive salary.
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Adaptable and lively Secretary wanted to help in small friendly office, often hectic, sometimes quiet, always interesting. £5,500 plus annual bonus.
Please telephone 589 9151

SECRETARY/P.A.

For Maritime/Commercial Brokers. Regent Street office. Knowledge of Spanish preferred. Work is varied with some light bookkeeping. Require bright, well organised person able to assume responsibilities. Able to handle phones and telex and take charge while principals are abroad. £6,000+ with advancement. Excellent opportunity to right person. Write with c.v. to Box 2793 F, The Times.

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Please send c.v. to Mark Scott, at 392 St John's Street, London, E.C.1.

SECRETARY
is required for a
WEST END GALLERY

dealing in ancient art and oriental rugs. Capable of composing letters and good typing essential. Some book-keeping required. Salary commensurate with experience.
Telephone Monday to Friday 10 to 6
499 8886

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require responsible, hard-working person with good telephone manner who can type, preferably also shorthand, telex, work closely with traders and assist in administration. Small office near Liverpool Street station. Good salary plus bonus, fringe benefits.
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01-228 3181 (eves.)

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WEST COUNTRY author's collected works (1945-1980). 76 signed books. £350. 073672-886.

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A temporary position with possibility of permanency. Shorthand, good typing and audio. Good salary. S.W.1 area.
Please ring 930 4884

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College leaver with fluent French, including French and English shorthand, to assist head of international advertising agency. 5 weeks' hols., £5,000 p.a.
Call Merrow Emp. Agy. 636 1487

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25-35, £6,150 + banking perks. Your sound sec. exp. will secure your position with International Bankers close to station. For further information call
Dien Ward 935 2088/7531 (day)
431 2378 (eves)
GLOBE APPOINTMENTS

La creme de la creme also on page 26

La Creme de la Creme

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

P.A./SECRETARY TO A SENIOR DIRECTOR

c. £6,000 p.a.

Based in Sussex

Our client, an international Group with headquarters in North Sussex offers an interesting and unusual opportunity for a PA/Secretary to a senior Director. The Company is highly successful and committed to a policy of expansion with a stimulating work environment.

The person appointed is likely to be 25 plus and already possessing senior secretarial experience. As well as technical competence, the successful applicant will require a flexible and resourceful approach in dealing with a high volume of work. A limited amount of travel could be involved for which an allowance would be payable, and car ownership would also be an advantage. Conditions are those one would expect from an enlightened employer.

Please write in confidence with a daytime/evening telephone number.

Patricia Aldersley (CRS/207),
Lockyer, Bradshaw & Wilson Ltd.,
North West House,
119/127 Marylebone Road,
London NW1 5PU.
Tel. 01-262 0181

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Mrs A Arthurs, Personnel Department
Bayer UK Limited, Bayer House, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1SJ. Tel: 01-940 6077

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PRO Fashion £7500+

There aren't many of these jobs around today! So, if you're 25+, bright and cheerful—with writing ability together with experience dealing with the national and provincial women's fashion press and you could co-ordinate photographic sessions, this job is for you.

Join one of Britain's best-known and most successful retail chains and work in a lively team where spirits are high and opportunities abound.

Business People Recruitment Consultants
Ten Maddox Street, W1R 9PN
Telephone: 01-629 9868.

BILINGUAL ADMIN. ASSISTANT £6,000

Combine the running of this busy department with the use of your fluent and commercial French. Ideally you should be aged 23-30, a graduate in French or have a bilingual secretarial qualification and related experience. Outgoing personality, common sense and immaculate typing essential. Please ring Fiona McLaren.

ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS Recruitment Consultants 01-493 6010

BILINGUAL GERMAN

£6,500 + MORTGAGE

A rapidly expanding international bank in EC2 require a senior level PA/Secretary with good spoken German. You'll be working for the manager in charge of their European division and two officers. You must be efficient, able to cope well under pressure and be prepared to learn to use a word processor. Good shorthand/typing skills necessary. Banking experience advantageous. Age mid-twenties. Excellent benefits.

Ring 628 4835

Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants

Career Girl

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This financial director will become chairman of insurance loss adjustors in April and needs a sensible ...

... there is absolutely no chance of boredom.
You'll not see many of our jobs elsewhere as most of our clients prefer to use us exclusively. If you aren't able to visit our offices, send your C.V. now. That way, you'll not lose out.

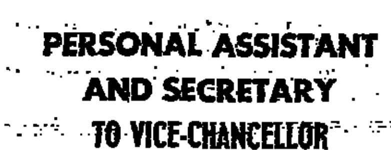
Phone Breda Luddy, Wilma Brice

493 8982

Career Girl 11-14 New Bond Street W1 (Employment Agency)



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PERSONAL ASSISTANT AND SECRETARY TO VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY

Applications are invited from graduates and others professionally qualified for the post of Personal Assistant and Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Initial salary according to qualifications and experience within the present scale: £4,795 to £8,095 (under review).

Further particulars from the Registrar, The University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, to whom applications on the form provided should be sent in an envelope marked 'PAS' by 30 April 1981.

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£5,500 +

Experienced Secretary/P.A. to work for charming Senior Partner ... Must be very flexible and have a good command of the English language.



DAYSAR

DOWELL SCHLUMBERGER

an oil service company, is looking for an

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

to work for the Unit Lawyer. Applicants should be aged 21-35, have a good secretarial background and be capable of handling confidential information. Flexibility and being free to travel is a must as the first few weeks will be spent working in Paris. Knowledge of languages is not essential. *We offer a good salary, LVs, plus other benefits.*

Send c.v. or telephone
Sue Gardner
DOWELL SCHLUMBERGER
Marble Arch House, 66/68 Seymour St
London W1H 5AF
Tel. 723 6687
(No agencies)

SENIOR SECRETARY

c£6,000

A Confidential Secretary is required by two partners in our W1 based consultancy firm. The work is interesting and varied and would suit someone who enjoys working in a busy, friendly environment. *Applicants should be aged 24+*, possess a sound secretarial background with a good standard of shorthand/typing and a mature outlook. Please telephone Christine Rutherford on 487 5331 or write to her at:

Jamieson, Mackay and Partners
3 Mandeville Place, London W1M 5LB
(No Agencies)

GERMAN BILINGUAL JUNIOR SEC/ST £5,000—W1

This small London office of an international American-based company is looking for a confident junior Secretary to undertake duties ranging from translations to ... bilingual secretarial training. German shorthand would be useful as well as a knowledge of French. Contact Liz Pugh, College Leaver Division, for further details.

SENIOR SECRETARIES Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

DIPLOMATIC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

with MANDARIN/CANTONESE

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for an ambitious, experienced British/European secretary aged 25+ who is prepared to become totally involved ... of responsibility. Top salary plus accommodation and transport for the right applicant. Fluent Mandarin or Cantonese essential and 100/50 speeds in English.

SENIOR SECRETARIES Recruitment Consultants
173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

KNIGHTSBRIDGE c. £7,000

Chief Executive of small and successful conglomerate seeks a capable PA/Secretary (28-40). This is a demanding appointment working for someone with widespread responsibilities. Therefore, applicants must have a sound commercial background working at director level together with impeccable secretarial skills to enable them to provide the necessary back-up and mastermind the running of the office.

Career plan 734 4284 Recruitment Consultants

£6,500

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

Initiative and previous banking experience required by two busy demanding Directors (who are often away travelling) of a small American bank in the city. There's the usual shorthand and typing, a lot of client contact.

377 8600 City
439 7001 West End

Secretaries Plus The Secretarial Consultants

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required to work in the busy Press/PR department of this prestige company. O levels essential as are good secretarial skills (90/60). Age 24 plus. Salary £5,500 plus good benefits.
Ring Christine Jones on 439 7972

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require a shorthand/audio secretary (21-30) to deal with Company/Commercial law. Ability, initiative, and charm are essential. Previous legal experience helpful.

Ring 01-491 4729
Ref. KM

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A non-profit making trade association in Victoria which provides research and marketing and information services to its members requires secretarial assistance for its Secretary. There is the opportunity for total involvement as well as attending social functions. Excellent benefits.

377 8600 City
439 7001 West End

Secretaries Plus The Secretarial Consultants

MAYFAIR PA £7,000

Our clients, a leading International Manufacturing Co., are setting up a new Mayfair-based head office. They seek a very socially confident P.A./Sec. (25-35) to their Managing Director. Excellent Sec. skills are essential, but you will handle mainly your own correspondence. Beautiful offices and top prospects.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street London W1
Telephone 01-499 2921

Senior Secretary £6,000

A senior secretary for Management Consultancy to work with the Deputy Director and a small team. The ability to organise and good typing ... are essential. The job is based in the London ... office of one of Europe's largest consultancies. German or French would be an added advantage.

Contact Hilma Strudwick, Metra Consulting Group, 01-223 7634

Secretary

Australian stockbrokers require efficient shorthand secretary, 22+, for the London Partner. Modern offices in EC3. Salary £5,500 negotiable + bonus. Ring

628-0624

No Agencies

YACHT CLUB

Requires

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Shorthand/Audio typing essential. Involvement with all aspects of club's activities important. Sailing background an advantage. Full-time appointment. Salary by negotiation.

Tel. Plymouth (0752) 667275

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Ideal position for young person to train with high class jeweller. High personal standards and impeccable appearance required. Knowledge of French preferable. Successful applicant will enjoy good salary and excellent conditions.

Phone 499 5718

City Bank seeks high calibre P.A./Secretary (20's) for their Assistant General Manager, who is very easy going and appreciative of a strong P.A. backup. Own office, mortgage facility and other usual Bank benefits. c. £8,000. Monica Grove Recruitment Consultants, 839 2186.

MAYFAIR—£6,500

Really efficient and adaptable secretary, aged 22-25 required for small Mayfair office.
Salary £6,500
+ BUPA Insurance
Write to: Lucy Nelson, 44 Hay's Mews, London W1

La creme de la creme also on page 25

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Since the first advert appeared we have received an endless stream of calls and let numerous flats to excellent Company tenants.
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Private Advertisers ring
01-837 3311

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Areas in particular demand are Knightsbridge, Kensington, Chelsea, Richmond and Wimbledon.
Contact us for that individual service.

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Pilgrims Letting Dept.
Farnham (0252) 710062

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Elegant family house on 4 flrs. with 40 ft. dble. reception, recessed ceiling lights, dining room with original fireplace, TV room, 6 beds., 3 baths., architects own interior design. Decor immaculate, 200 ft. garden, 11 year lease, ground rent £100 p.a. ...

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IMMEDIATE CASH OFFER FOR ALL JEWELLERY

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RENTAPIANO

THE BUDGET BEATER £800+

(Continued on page 28)

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE

Ashley Jackson (left) and some Andalucian admirers of his paintings: Once in a Lifetime (ITV, 9.00).

• The pattern of Elaine Morgan's plays about Lloyd George — tonight's is the third (BBC 2, 9.25) — is now set as firm as concrete: the pendulum swings from philandering to politicizing and back again. I think Miss Morgan is keeping a sensible balance between the two, but I have a sneaking feeling I am in a rapidly dwindling minority. Tonight, neither the roving eye nor the political dynamism is given much respite: a scandal threatens, Lloyd George becomes president of the Board of Trade, he settles the 1907 rail strike, is made Chancellor the Exchequer and lays the foundation stone of our present social welfare system. All in 60 minutes flat.

• I am the last to complain that, on BBC 2, Wednesday night has become biographical night: there's not much quality fiction around these days. Part four of the Muggeridge life story (BBC 2, 8.05) sees the end of the sage's marking time and his brisk entry into fulfilling journalism: the posting to Washington as the Daily Telegraph correspondent, his subsequent promotion to the newspaper's deputy editorship, his appointment as editor of Punch and, stemming from that, his work as interviewer on Panorama.

• I must draw your attention to two exciting programmes about painting tonight: Sir Hugh Casson pointing out those features that do not immediately meet the eye in Turner's The Burning of the Houses of Parliament (One Hundred Great Paintings, BBC 2, 7.25), and the Yorkshire landscape painter Ashley Jackson's quest for his roots in the second of Barry Cockcroft's new series Once in a Lifetime (ITV, 9.00). Why exciting? Because in both films elemental forces of great power are unleashed when brush touches canvas.

• It is a long time since I recommended you to burn the midnight oil. Brian Matthew's Radio 2 arts magazine (11.00) is transmitted live from Manchester's Palace Theatre which re-opens tonight after its spectacular face-lift. Interviews with stars of the opening production, Jesus Christ Superstar, and with visiting celebrities.... The English Chamber Orchestra concert from the Royal Festival Hall (Radio 3, 8.00) is an all-Mendelssohn affair, the Symphony No 4, the Violin Concerto in E Minor (soloist: Pinchas Zukerman), and the Midsummer Night's Dream music ... Kaleidoscope (Radio 4, 9.30) which my fellow members of the Broadcasting Press Guild last week voted the best of the radio magazines, tonight previews Friday night's BBC 2 play about Unity Mitford, and has an interview with Gloria Swanson about her autobiography.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC1

6.40 am Open University. The Moonies; 7.05 After the earthquake; 7.30 Telecommunication networks; 7.55 Closedown.

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Technical studies: microelectrics; 9.35 Maths File (area); 9.58 Let's Go to the Doctor; 10.12 Words and Pictures; 10.30 Japan (factory); 11.02 Everyday Maths.

11.25 You and Me: Bendy Lines (r).

11.40 For Schools, Colleges: Resource Unit: English; 12.05 pm Kontakte. German lesson. Closedown at 12.30.

12.45 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. With items on menus for arthritics, and vintage telephones. 1.45 Trumpton: The Plumber (r).

2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Watch (the Moon); 2.18 Twentieth-Century History: The Road to Berlin; 2.40 Read on! Words of Tomorrow.

3.00 Speak for Yourself: The practical uses of English. What to say when someone is rude to you; 3.25 Delia Smith's Cookery Course: The versatility of cheese (r).

3.55 Play School: Joanne Cole's story Splodges and Squares. Can also be seen on BBC 2 at 11.00. 4.20 Secret Squirrel. Cartoon: Gold Rushed.

4.25 Jackanory: Ann Morrish reads from Mary Cockett's Shadow at Applegarth.

4.40 Take Hart: With Tony Hart, Morph and the Tin Pots. Includes a close encounter with a visitor from the Milky Way. 5.05 John Craven's Newsround.

5.10 Break in the Sun: Final episode of this children's serial. Patsy makes a mess of her first performance in the play. With Nicola Cowper as Patsy. 5.35 Fred Basset: Puppies Tale.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming.

5.55 Regional news magazines. All regions come together for Nationwide at 6.20.

6.45 Triangle: Passenger ferry serial, with Michael Craig, Kate O'Mara. Only four more episodes to go.

7.20 Film: Dear Brigitte (1965) Comedy, with James Stewart as a professor whose young son (Billy Mumy, aged eight) falls in love with Brigitte Bardot. With Glynis Johns, and a brief appearance from Miss Bardot herself. Director: Henry Koster.

9.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

9.25 Sportsnight: The Greyhound TV Trophy Final, from Perry Barr, Birmingham. Also, last night's Wembley fights between Alan Minter and Ernie Singletory, and Tony Sibson and Nick Ortiz.

10.15 Open Secret: Gravesend 64701. The title is the telephone number of the local Social Services Department, and we see some social workers in action. Peter Williams is the reporter.

10.45 Parkinson: The mid-week edition of his chat show. His guests are Bernard Miles, Kiri Te Kanawa and Phil Drabble.

11.45 News headlines.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 10.30-10.50 am I Ysgolion 11.02-11.22 I Ysgolion 1.45-2.01 pm Mister Men 2.18-2.38 I Ysgolion. 5.10-5.40 Break in the Sun. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.50 Antur i'r Andes. 7.50-8.15 Triangle. 8.15-9.00 Abba in Concert. 11.45 News. Scotland: 12.40-12.45 pm Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.45 News. Northern Ireland: 3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 11.45 News. England: 5.55-6.20 pm Regional Magazines. 11.50 Close.

BBC2

6.40 am Open University. Man-powered aircraft; 7.05 Pilgrimage in the Hindu tradition; 7.30 Edinburgh observed. Closedown at 7.55.

10.20 Gharbar: Special magazine for Asian women. Closedown at 10.45.

11.00 Play School. Same as BBC 1.

2.00 pm Racing from Cheltenham: National Hunt Festival — day two. The big race is the 2.15 Queen Mother Champion Steeplechase. The other races we see are the 2.15, 3.30 and the 4.05. Commentators: Peter O'Sullevan and Richard Pitman. Highlights tonight at 10.25, on BBC 2. Closedown at 4.20

3.55 (Splodges and Squares, by Joanne Cole). Closedown at 11.25.

4.50 Open University: Riccio's bronzes; 5.15 Frequency response.

5.40 King of the Rocket Men*: Episode 10 of this old black-and-white serial which used to thrill children at Saturday morning film shows.

5.55 Once Over Lightly* Mack Sennett comedy, with Ben Turpin and the Keystone Cops.

6.10 The Master Game: The eleventh game in the international chess tournament. At the board are Bent Larsen, of Denmark, and Hein Donner, of the Netherlands.

6.40 Open Door: Vicious Circle. Film about Elephant Jobs Ltd, a non-profit making organization who help young unemployed people in north Lambeth and north Southwark, London; 7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.25 One Hundred Great Paintings: Sir Hugh Casson on Turner's The Burning of the Houses of Parliament, which hangs at the Cleveland Museum of Art, Ohio;

7.35 The Getaways: A novice crew spend a week on board the Sail Training Association schooner Sir Winston Churchill.

8.05 Muggeridge; Ancient and Modern. The biography continues. This fourth programme, covers the period 1954-1956. (See Personal Choice).

9.00 M*A*S*H: Korean war comedy series. What happens when Colonel Flagg (Ed Winter) fixes his suspicious eye on Hawkeye (Alan Alda).

9.25 The Life and Times of David Lloyd George: Part 3 of Elaine Morgan's ambitious series about the Welsh politician's private and public lives. Tonight: the Liberal landslide that brings Lloyd George into the Government. With Philip Madoc as the Welsh Wizard (See Personal Choice).

10.25 Racing from Cheltenham: Today's big race can be seen again — the Queen Mother Champion Steeplechase.

10.45 Newsnight: News and comment. Also sports round-up and weather forecast.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: The Netherlands; 9.50 My World; dimensions; 10.10 Film about a Victorian doctor and his family; 10.35 Music Round; 11.05 Wool — from sheep to carpet factory; 11.17 Family life in Cologne, Germany; 11.34 How to write an autobiography.

12.00 Cloppa Castle: medieval fun, with puppets. 12.10 Rainbow: Different ways to sing songs. Also, the story of the singing kettle, by Anne Standon.

12.30 About Britain: the World of Frank Letch. Film about an armless teacher whose life is full to overflowing. In Welsh, with English sub-titles.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Crown Court: The jury returns its verdict in the case of an alleged assault during a football match. With Sara Kestelman.

2.00 After Noon Plus: A rare interview with Kathy Kirby, singing star of the 1960s whose recent career has been beset by personal and financial problems. She has now made a new record.

2.45 Fantasy Island: Ridiculous American series about a magical island, ruled over by Ricardo Montalban.

3.45 Food, Wine and Friends: Robert Carrier shows Virginia McKenna how to prepare couscous. Also, a visit to a wine town.

4.15 Watch It! A Dr Snuggles story, with Peter Ustinov's voice; 4.20 Runaround: Quiz game, with Mike Reid. It has a seaside atmosphere;

4.45 Brendon Chase: Policeman versus bear, and a storm. The serial about brothers living an al fresco existence.

5.15 Mr and Mrs: Matrimonial quiz game. With Derek Batey.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Help! The need for women to be vaccinated against German Measles (rubella). 6.35 Crossroads: The Lee brothers have a showdown.

7.00 This is Your Life: Back-patting biography, told by Eammon Andrews and a large cast of well-wishers.

7.30 Coronation Street: Is there a woman in Fred Gee's life? And has Ken Barlow really got Deirdre Langton out of his system?

8.00 Starburst: Variety show, with Leo Sayer, Bertice Reading, Barry Evans, the ventriloquist Neville King and the impressionist Aiden J Harvey.

9.00 Once in a Lifetime: My Own Flesh and Blood. Yorkshire landscape painter Ashley Jackson, goes to Spain and Ireland to try and find his roots. The enterprise began with a bequest from his mysterious Spanish grandmother, and it ends in an isolated Andalusian dustbowl.

10.00 News. And Thames news headlines.

10.30 Mid-Week Sports Special. Coverage of one of the football games as a result of which British teams hope to reach the semi-finals of Europe's big three club competitions: the European Cup, Cup-Winners' Cup, and U E F A Cup. Also, highlights of the Hunt Gymnastics International at Wembley.

12.00 Superstar Profile. Catherine Laporte Coolen interviews Steven Spielberg, director of Jaws, Close Encounters of the Third Kind and Duel.

12.25 Close. Johnny Morris reads from the writings of Chinese philosophers.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Mr Know-All, by W. Somerset Maugham.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Frank Muir Goes Into Pettiness.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: The Essential Cecil, by Elizabeth Kay.†
3.50 Zoo Talk.
4.00 Choral Evensong.†
4.45 The Householder (3).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 My Music.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint.
7.45 Tuesday Call (recording).
8.45 File on 4.
9.30 Kaleidoscope (see Personal Choice).
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Lord of the Rings (2).†
11.00 Anna of the Five Towns (3).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping Forecast.
VHF
9.05 am Schools: Advanced Studies — English; Radio Thin King (5); La France aujourd'hui (8); Poetry Corner; Music Makers (8); Something to Think About.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Box; By the People, For the People; Casebook '81; Quest.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Movement and Drama 1; Books, Plays, Poems; Nature.
11.00 Study on 4: Digame! (20).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: Theories of Art — Schiller; Genetic Disease in Man.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Arne, Beethoven, Vivaldi.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Sarasate, Bizet, Horowitz, Adam.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Fauré.†
10.00 Organ: Dupre, Demessieux, Tournemire, Roth.†
10.45 Viola (Erdelyi), piano: Hugh Wood, Dodgson, Daiken.†
11.30 BBC Scottish SO/Adey: Beethoven, Spohr, Elgar, Holst.†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Piano (Dawson-Lyell—live from Broadcasting House): Bartok.†
2.00 Cricket: West Indies v England.
4.05 The Prelude, by Wordsworth (11).
4.30 Violin, piano (Brainin/Crowson): Mozart (K481).
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Songs: Schubert, Schumann, Brahms.†
7.30 Talk: Djilas on Tito (1).
8.00 ECO/Zukerman (live from Festival Hall), pt 1: Mendelssohn (incl Sym 4).† (See Personal Choice).
9.00 Six Continents.
9.20 ECO, pt 2: Mendelssohn (Vln Conc).†
9.55 Clarinet, piano (Stoltzman/Ax): Weber, Stravinsky, Chopin, Brahms.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Record: Palmgren.†
11.15-11.30 Cricket.
VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Dartmoor — Mining and Military; Modern European Drama; Television and Politics (3).
2.00 pm Music Weekly.†
2.50 Wind: Dvorak.†
3.20-4.05 Songs (Rayner Cook/Vignoles): Wordsworth, Brian, Berkeley.†
11.15-12.35 am Open University: Was Malthus Right?; New Materials; 1830 and its Legacy; Economics and Education Policy.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Ray Moore.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Steve Jones.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 5.00 Sport: Football; Cricket. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Sport: Football; Cricket. 9.30 The Songwriters.† 10.00 Wit's End. 10.30 Richard Gordon. 11.00 Brian Matthew (see Personal Choice). 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music †

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel † 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.00 pm Listen to the Band.† 8.30 Alan Dell.† 9.00 The Song Writers.† 10.00 With Radio 1 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-four Hours 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice 8.30 Brain of Britain 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Play it My Way 10.15 Divertimento 10.30 The Study of Man 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post 11.30 'Tis my Delight 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 am Nature Notebook 12.25 The Farming World 12.45 Sports Round-up 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours 1.30 Little Dorrit 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 The Age of Aquarius. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Emlyn. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.09 Book Choice 5.15 Listening Post 5.30 Take One 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 9.15 International Soccer Special 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Round-up 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas 11.30 Top Twenty 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Listening Post 12.45 Famous Opera Houses 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Words Made Flesh 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network U K 2.30 Assignment 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

ATV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Lettermen in Concert 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 News 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today 12.00 News. 12.05 am-12.35 Country Music.

Southern
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Fantasy Island. 3.15-3.45 Life Begins at Forty. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Day by Day. 6.35-7.00 Scene Mid-Week 12.00 Weather followed by Hard Awakening.

Granada
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.50-3.45 Family. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is your Right 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 12.00 am-12.30 Odd Couple.

Tyne Tees
As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where The Jobs Are. 2.45-3.45 Danger UXB. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Sports Special 12.00-12.05 am Makers of Northumbria.

Westward
As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Star Parade Barry Manilow 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary 10.31 News 10.34 Sports Special. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

HTV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Run a Crooked Mile (Louis Jourdan). 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.28-10.30 News. 12.00 Closedown.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 I Wish I Had. 4.45-5.15 Sion a Sian Y Byd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

Channel
As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-130 News 2.45-3.45 Star Parade. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.28 News. 10.34 Sports Special 12.00 Epilogue.

Grampian
As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 12.00-12.05 am News.

Scottish
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Certain Women 5.15 Traveller's Tales 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Toye's Talk Back 6.30-7.00 Weir's Way 12.00-12.05 am Late Call.

Yorkshire
As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Lifeline 5.15-5.45 [illegible] Strokes 6.00-6.35 Calendar 12.00 Closedown.

Ulster
As Thames except 1.20 pm 1.30 Lunchtime 4.13-4.15 News 5.15 Cartoon 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 7.00 Good Evening Ulster 12.00 12.10 am Bedtime

Border
As Thames except 1.20 pm [illegible] 2.45-3.45 Love Boat 5.15 [illegible] sity Challenge 6.00-6.35 [illegible] 12.00-12.03 am News

Anglia
As Thames except Starts 9.15 am-9.30 Jobline. 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Story Hour. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia 12.00 Paris by Night 12.30 am The Big Question

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

Most credit cards accepted for phone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COVENT GARDEN. 240 1066. S. Gardencharge cc 836 6903. 65 Amphiseats avail. for all perfs from 10 am on the day of perf.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Ton't and Tues. at 7.30 Daphnis and Chloe. My Brother, My Sisters. Facade. Tomor. Fri. and Mon. at 7.30 Mayerling (Penney replaces Seymour tomor. perf.) Sat. at 7.30 Manon.

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258. Until April 4.
LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Sat. Sat. Mar. 21 and 28 at 2.30. April 4 at 3.00. Eves 7.30 until Mar. 25: COPPELIA. Ton't: Elith, Sboog, Long.

FRENCH INSTITUTE. Queensberry Place SW7.
GIUSEPPE DI STEFANO
The great Italian tenor talks to Ian Stevenson with records. 6.30 Wed. 18 Mar. Tkts £1.50. 589 8590.

LOGAN HALL. Bedford Way. WC1 Sat. 21 March at 7.30 p.m. Concert performance of RENAUD by Sacchini BBC Concert Orchestra Conductor: Richard Hickox Tues. 24 March at 7.30 p.m. Concert performance of MANON LESCAUT by Puccini, Chelsea Opera Chorus & Orchestra, conductor: Howard Williams. Tickets £5, £4, £3, £2. Camden Box Office (388 7271).

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Evs. 7.30. Tonight and Tomor. Dancing Day, Rite of Spring. Tuesday Sunday. Dark Elegies. Fri. and Sat. Cruel Garden. Tkts. £1-£6.
March 23 to 28: SINGERS COMPANY present two of Offenbach's operettas.

CONCERTS

STABAT MATER
DVORAK
Valerie Hill: Soprano
Ann Collis: Contralto
Peter Hall: Tenor
Geoffrey Shaw: Bass
Chandos Choir, The St. James Singers, The Shepperton Singers, Bow Orchestra
Conductor: Andrew Pearmain
Admission Free—Collection
GOOD FRIDAY, 17th APRIL
6 p.m.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
TUESDAY, 7th APRIL
6 p.m.
ST JOHN PASSION
BACH
Evangelist: Alan Green
Christus: Roger Heath
Ashley Stafford, Douglas Leigh
Geoffrey Shaw, Graham Sorrell
Organ Continuo:
Christopher Dearnley
The Cathedral Choir
The Special Service Choir
The London Bach Orchestra
Conductor: Barry Rose
Admission Free—Collection
PALM SUNDAY, 12th APRIL
6.30 p.m.

ST MATTHEW PASSION
BACH
Evangelist: Peter Hall
Christus: Bryn Evans
Patricia Garnham, Joyce Jarvis
David Roy, Nigel Beavan
Continuo: John Scott
Ripieno: The Boys of St. Paul's Cathedral Choir
London Cantata Choir and Orchestra
Conductor: Peter Moorse
TICKETS £3.50 [illegible] OAPs £1.75. Students £2.25 [illegible] OAPs £1.00. Students £1.50. [illegible] the Friends Stall in the Cathedral or by post enclosing [illegible] P.O. and S.A.E. from 8 [illegible] Avenue, Luton, Beds. LU3

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Prince Consort Road, S.W.7
Tuesday, 24 March, at 7 p.m.
TWENTIETH CENTURY ENSEMBLE
[illegible] Preludes
[illegible] Witold Lutoslawski
[illegible] Roberto Gerhard
Pieces for Wind Quintet
[illegible] Gyorgy Ligeti
Chamber Concerto Gyorgy Ligeti
Conductors: Stephen Savage and Timothy Salter

THEATRES

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DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.

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ARTS 836 2132. Mons to Sats 8pm JOHN JUDD in 'TWISTED CUES & ELLIPTICAL BALLS' A comic tour de force' D. Tel. An affectionate look at the lives & music of Gilbert & Sullivan £4 £3 £2 The Best Value in Town.

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COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Limited season until 23 May only. Evenings 7.15. Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of ARTHUR MILLER'S
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Directed by Bill Bryden "Thrilling production of a magnificent play" F. Times.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45. Martin Connor, David Delve Tricia George, Peter Reeves in A SATIRIC MUSICAL REVUE
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HAYMARKET Theatre Royal. CC 01-930 9832. Last weeks, season must end April 18. Book now. evgs at 8.0. MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragi-comic Actress in full bloom". Financial Times, in
VIRGINIA
"Beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience." D. Telegraph. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia & Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. Late-comers may not be admitted.

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evenings at 8.0. Mat. Sats. 2.30. CONSTANCE CUMMINGS "Bewitching" Times. ANGELA THORNE "Magnetic performance" Gdn in The GOLDEN AGE. A new play by A. R. Gurney. "Considerable wit and finesse" S. Tel. "Graceful" Obs.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301. MIKE LEIGH'S
GOOSE-PIMPLES
"A TERRIBLY FUNNY PLAY, STRONGLY RECOMMENDED" S. Tms. "A VICIOUS COMEDY THAT IS FUNNY EVEN WHEN IT HURTS" Std. Mon to Fri 8. Sat 4.30 & 8.

JEANNETTA COCHRANE 242-7040 Mar. 16-21 THEATRE OF MISTAKES, 1.15 & 8. Tkts. at door from £1.

KINGS HEAD 226 1916. Dnr 7. Show 8. UP IN THE 80's by Neville Phillips & Robb Stewart.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Opens Ton't. 7.0, Subs. Eves. 7.30 Sats. 4.30 & 8.15. Joe Orton's ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE. With David Blake Kelly, Glyn Grimstead, Dave King, Barbara Windsor. Dir: Kenneth Williams.

LYRIC STUDIO: Eves. 8.0 Hull Truck presents THE COCKROACH TRILOGY by Alan Williams. Dir: Mike Bradwell Ton't The Cockroach Has Landed.

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0, Sat 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN
NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage): Ton't, Tomor. 7.45. THE BROWNING VERSION/Harlequinade double bill by Rattigan.

MAYFAIR THEATRE (near Green Pk. Undgd.) 629 3036. Gp. Sales 379 6061. Opens Tues. 31 March at 7 p.m. Evgs. Mon.-Fri 8.00. Sats 5.15 & 8.15. Mats Wed. 2.30 THE FLYING KARAMAZOV BROTHERS Juggling and Cheap Theatrics.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats from 10 am day of perf all 3 theatres. Also Standby 45 mins before start. NOTE NEW STARTING TIMES: OLIVIER & COTTESLOE. Car park, Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880. NT also at COMEDY THEATRE.

NEW LONDON THEATRE c.c. Drury Lane. London, W.C.2. 01-405 0072. Opens April 30. Previews from April 22.
CATS
A MUSICAL BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER BASED ON OLD POSSUM'S BOOK OF PRACTICAL CATS BY T. S. ELIOT.
CATS
Additional Box Office (at Normal Theatre Prices), The Ticket Centre (by Wyndham Theatre), St. Martin's Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. 01-340 2150. BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN!

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 'S'. Last Week. Eves. at 7.30. Sat. at 2.0. Today Mat. Cancelled. Winston Ntshona & John Kani in WAITING FOR GODOT. From 31 Mar.-11 Apr. The Centaur Company of Montreal in Fennario's BALCONVILLE.

OLIVER (NT's open stage): Today 2.30 (low price mat.) & 7.15 A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY by Ivan Turgenev trans by Isaiah Berlin. Tomor. 6.00 MAN AND SUPERMAN.

PALACE, S cc 01-437 6834 "OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail. Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 OPENING JUNE 11 Reduced price previews from May 29.
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
In the Gigantic Broadway Musical
BARNUM
ADVANCE SALES OPEN NOW! Use the Barnum hot lines 01-437 2055, 01-734 8961 for instant credit card reservations.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. LAST 4 DAYS MUST END SATURDAY Evgs. 7.30, Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2.45 JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in
DICK WHITTINGTON
"The audience, old and young, roared, screamed, yelled and laughed their approval" Fin Times. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061.
FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS April 14-19, 6 days only, including Good Fri. & Easter Sunday
ELLA FITZGERALD
OSCAR PETERSON
Opens April 28th—2 weeks only. THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP",
LIBERACE
with supporting company. Box office now open. Credit cards accepted.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO.
in Willy Russell's hit comedy
EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS ... IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED AND EXHILARATED", S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in
IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal, EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

PRINCE EDWARD. S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price Directed by Robert Chetwyn Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART ... A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564. ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY. THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with Helen Mirren, Mike Gwilym, Julian Curry, Peter Postlethwaite and Bob Hoskins. 1 April-9 May. HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? a farce with Brian Cox, Dilys Hamlett, John Phillips & Derek Griffiths, Susan Littler. 13 May-1 June. WAITING FOR GODOT with Max Wall and Trevor Peacock. June 9-27. THE MISANTHROPE with Tom Courtenay. 1 July-1 August. Season Ticket available.

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. FAITH HEALER by Brian Friel HELEN MIRREN, STEPHEN LEWIS, TONY ROHR. Last week. Evgs. 8. No latecomers.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS. 730 2554. THE 1981 YOUNG WRITERS' FESTIVAL. Tues. to Sat. 7.30.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660. 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis Group sales box office 379 6061. Mons-Sats 8pm.

SHAFTESBURY, cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Box Office 836 6596 or 836 4255. Credit card bkgs. 839 7516, 839 4683, 839 4855 (9.30-6.0, Sat 9.30-4.30). Group Bookings Only. 01-839 3092.
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances" D. Mail. Prices: Stalls, Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50, £2.50. O.A.P's £4.00 (Wed Mats only, best seats). Student standby £4.00. Evgs 8.0, Mats Wed 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.30.

TRICYCLE THEATRE, 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Mons. to Sats. 8 p.m. Monstrous Regiment presents the London Premiere of "MOURNING PICTURES" by Honor Moore.

VAUDEVILLE s cc 836 9988 Monday-Friday Evgs. 7.45 Mats. Wed. 2.45, Sats. 4.0 & 7.45
DONALD SINDEN
DINAH SHERIDAN
GWEN WATFORD
POLLY ADAMS in
PRESENT LAUGHTER
by NOEL COWARD
"TERRIFIC" S. Times. Group Sales Box Office 01-379 6061

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30, Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't, Tomor. 7.30 THE IRISH PLAY by Ron Hutchinson. "Hilarious ... sheer theatrical vitality" Gdn. All seats £3.50. Students £3.00 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER. S CC 01-834 0283 Matinees only. Monday-Friday 2.15, Sats. 3.0 until March 28.
THE NAMESAKE
A NEW PLAY ABOUT KING ALFRED AND THE VIKINGS.

WINDMILL THEATRE, cc 01-437 6312. Twice nightly. Mon-Sat, 7 & 9 p.m. Sun 6 & 8 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price, Gps 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.45.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Eves 7.30 Ton't, Thu PYGMALION. Fri ROSENCRANTZ. Sat Mon RICHARD II.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT. From 8.00. Dining & Dancing
RITA MORENO
—AND COMPANY
preceded at 9.30 by Super Revue "BUBBLY"
DANCING UNTIL 1 a.m.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3 437 8819. Ira Wohl's Academy Award winning film BEST BOY (U). Progs. 5.00, 7.00, 9.00 daily.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road. 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Last perf bookable.
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). A John Cassavetes Film GLORIA (AA). Cont. progs. Dly 1.30 (not Sun) 3.45, 6.00, 8.30.
CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.0 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40. "I like this film intensely" Alexander Walker New Standard.
DOMINION, Tott. Court Rd. (580 9562) BEING THERE (AA), THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S BALL (AA). Cont. Progs. Wks. 2.45, 6.45. Sun. 3.55, 6.10.
EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for the last evening performance only. Advance box office open from 11 am to 7 pm (not Suns). Credit card telephone bookings ring Teledata 200 0200. Albert Finney, Martin Sheen LOOPHOLE (A). Mon-Sat: Sept progs. 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Sunday: 6.00, 8.30. STARTING APRIL 9 "TESS" (A). A Roman Polanski Film. Nominated for 6 Oscars including "Best Picture". ADVANCE BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN! Now RITZ, Leicester Square THE LONG GOOD FRIDAY (X). Sep progs daily 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.
GATE CINEMA. Nott. Hill. 221 0220/727 5750. Martin Scorsese's RAGING BULL (X) 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50 WOMEN IN LOVE (X) and THE MUSIC LOVERS (X) 11.15 p.m.
GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402/1177. Russ Sq Tube. KAGEMUSHA (A) 2.15, 5.15, 8.15. Last day. Starts tomorrow BLOOD OF HUSSAIN (AA). THE GODFATHER Part II (X) Lic'd Bar.
GATE THREE CINEMA. 267 1201/485 2436. Camden Twn Tb. THE GREAT SANTINI (A) 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.05. BAWDY TALES (X) & ARABIAN NIGHTS (X) 11.00 p.m. Lic'd Bar.
GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL, Stratton St. Green Pk. Tb. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U), 5.30, 7.20, 9.15.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). THE SPECIAL EDITION: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (A). Sep progs. Mon-Sat 2.10, 5.15, 8.20. Seats Bookable w/ends & last Eve. Prog.
MINEMA, 45 Knightsbridge. 235 4225/6. Exclusive presentation of "MY BRILLIANT CAREER" (U). (New Print.) Daily 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Extra Perf. Fri. & Sat. 11.00. BAFTA Nominations: Judy Davis Best Actress for "My Brilliant Career"
ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. progs. 1.45, 4.50, 8.00.
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open 1.15, 4.20, 7.30.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W.2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep Progs. Drs Open Daily 2.30, 6.45.
ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, THE ELEPHANT MAN (AA). For info. 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. progs. 2.15, 5.15, 8.15.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4, off Piccadilly Circus 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as EMPIRE, Leicester Square.
*1. ORDINARY PEOPLE (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.40.
*2. COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.40.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.35.
*4. AIRPLANE (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.
* NO SMOKING AREA
* NO SMOKING
PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep Perfs. Dly (inc Sun) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.55. Seats bkble. Lic'd bar.
SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366 Robert de Niro. RAGING BULL (X). Film showing at 1.45, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10. Ring 435 9787 after 2 p.m., for phone bookings.

EXHIBITIONS

FISCHER FINE ART, 30 King St. St. James's, S.W.1. 839 3942. JACK SMITH—Recent Paintings Until 16 April. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30: Sats. 10-12.30.
BRITISH LIBRARY (In Brit. Museum). GEORGE ELIOT. Until 26 April. TUDOR MAP-MAKING. Until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

ART GALLERIES

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St., W.1. David Bomberg/Rainer Fetting 01-629 1578.
BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD. Cambridge Heath Road, E.2. Chad Valley Board Games 1887-1935. Until 29 March. Wkdys 10-6. Suns. 2.30-6. Closed Fridays. Adm. free.
BRITISH LIBRARY (In Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. DODY STRASSER & JENNY GREVATTE.
CONTEMPORARY ART COURSES at ICA. See Forth. Events, back pg.
HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. EDWARD HOPPER and WILLIAM JOHNSTONE. Till March 29. Wkdys. 10-6. Sun. 12-6. Adm. £1.50. All day Mon. 75p.
HAZLITT, GOODEN & FOX, 38 Bury Street, St James's, SW1. 01-930 6422 Henri Edmond Cross, 24 early Drawings from the Collection of Félix Fénéon. Monday to Friday. 10-5.30, until March 27.
IVOR BRAKA, 34 Pont St., S.W.1. 01-581 2966. David Bomberg, Wadsworth, Stanley Spencer, Matthew Smith, Paul Nash and other 20th Century British Artists. By appt. only.
LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. Twentieth Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5.
MARLBOROUGH
6 Albemarle St, W1. Drawings & Watercolours by 13 British Artists Mon-Fri. 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.
MILTON AVERY "Figures from the Forties". Ten major paintings Thomas Gibson Fine Art. 9a New Bond Street, W1. 01-499 8572. Weekdays 10am-5pm.
REDFERN GALLERY
DAVID EVANS
Watercolours 1980
March 3rd - 25th
20 Cork Street, London, W1
Mon-Fri 10-5.30 Sats 10-12.30
THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-221 4578. LEONARD BASKIN, graphics, drawings, sculptures. Tues.-Fri. 10-6. Sat. 11-5.
VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken. HILLE: 75 Years of British Furniture. Until 31 May. Adm. 50p. DRAWING TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE. Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.30, Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

BIRTHS

—a son (Timothy Lloyd), a brother for Nicholas Lester born on 8th August, 1979.

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY 32 for yesterday. Love from D. L. & Mrs. R.
SHIPP M. R. b. 18.3.51 & 18.3.55. R & C for a double celebration ? TH.

DEATHS

BLACKWALL.—On March 14th, 1981. Irene Augusta D'Arcy, suddenly, at home, Ramley Lodge, Upper Pennington, Lymington. Dearly loved wife of Rev John Blackwall and mother of David and Andrew. Funeral at Burley Parish Church on Friday, March 20th, at 3.30 pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy, 14 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 6AH.

BLAKE.—Peacefully, in hospital, on Monday, 16th March, 1981, Major Denis Carolin Blake, late of the Royal Green Jackets. Dear husband of Kay, father of Simon and Richard. Cremation private. No flowers. Donations in lieu to St Columbus Hospice, Challenge Lodge, Boswell Road, Edinburgh.

BUCKLAND, YVONNE.—Suddenly, on March 16th, at her home in Broadchalke. Funeral service at Broadchalke Church on Saturday, March 21st, at 2.30 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but any donations to All Saints' Church, Broadchalke.

BUDD.—On March 15th, 1981, at Princess Mary's RAF Hospital, Halton, Aylesbury, Bucks, Ernest Frank, of Bridle Manor, Holton, aged 76. The funeral service will take place on Thursday, March 19th, at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Flowers and enquiries to Gurneys Funeral Service Ltd, 52 Church St, Wolverton, Milton Keynes: telephone 0908 312181.

BURRELL.—On March 14th, 1981, peacefully, at her home, Little Barrow, Stoborough, Wareham, in her 95th year, Irene, last surviving child of Harry and ... Burrell of Alton. Beloved aunt, great-aunt and great-great-aunt. Funeral service at Church of Lady St Mary, Wareham, on Monday, March 23rd, at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Bournemouth. Flowers and enquiries to Albert Marsh (Funeral Directors) Ltd, Wareham 2107.

CALVERT.—On Friday March 13th 1981 suddenly at his home, Thornbrook, Thurlestone Sands, South Devon, Brigadier Hubert Brian Calvert, D.S.O. late Royal Engineers, aged 76 years, beloved husband of Ursula and dear father of James. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Galmpton on Friday March 20th at 2.30 pm. Flowers please to Messrs. Andrews, 119 Fore St, Kingsbridge.

COUSINS.— On March 15th, 1981, John D. Cousins, beloved husband of Eileen, of Midhurst, West Sussex.

FLETT.—On 15th March in Melbourne, Australia, aged 75, Harald, deeply loved husband of Laurie, father of Scarth and Rhana, grandfather of Sam and brother of Winifred and Martin.

GRANT, CHARLES ALBERT.—In The Middlesex Hospital, London, on 16th March. "Grieve not that he has gone, rather rejoice that he ever was." Sorely missed by Sarah, Tony, Rodney, Myrtle, Pat and the boys. Funeral Friday, 20th, at 11.45 a.m., St Mary's Church, Henley on Thames, and cremation at Reading. Flowers to Tomalin, Henley on Thames, or donations to The British Heart Foundation.

KING.—On March 14th, at home, Cedric Marcus King, MBE, aged 75 years, devoted husband of Theresa and father of Paul. Service and Cremation at South London Crematorium on Friday, March 20th, at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only.

LAWRENCE SMITH.—On March 16th, 1981, in Winchester, Eva Leighton, aged 94, late of The Drive, Hove, Sussex. Service at Southampton Crematorium (West Chapel) on Monday, March 23rd, at 11.45 am.

JENKINS.—On Saturday 14th March, 1981, Richard Beauchamp Maunsell of Dial House, Great Shelford, Cambridge. Husband of the late Edith Jane, beloved father of Jan, Lyn and David and grandfather of Richard and Charlotte. Funeral service private. No flowers please, but donations to the Red Cross.

NISBET.—Peacefully, at Ballochmyle Hospital, Mauchline, Ayrshire, on 14th March, 1981, Wing Commander Alexander Chisolm Nisbet (retd.), 55 Main St., Dundonald, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, beloved husband of Gladys Nisbet and father of James.

PAGE.—On 15th March, 1981, peacefully, in her 86th year, Alice Mary Page, of 3 Broadleas Close, Devizes, widow of William James Page, beloved mother of Olivia, John, Angela and Jim, and much-loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at 10.30 am, on Saturday, 21st March, at The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Devizes. Family flowers only.

REARDON.—On March 14th, at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Ernest Reardon, CBE, aged 89, after a short illness. Service at Guildford Crematorium, at 11 am, on Friday, March 20th. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the League of Friends, Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, Hants.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BRAMLEY.—A memorial service will be held for Richard Bramley of Ramshaw Lodge, Unstone, Sheffield on March 23rd, at 12.15 p.m. at Sheffield Cathedral.

CAYZER.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon. Mrs. Anthony Cayzer will be held at St. Albans Abbey at 1.45 p.m. on Saturday, March 21.

HAFNER.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Raoul Hafner will be held at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, at 12 noon on Friday, 27th March, 1981.

LOVEDAY.—A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of George Arthur Loveday will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday, 24th March, 1981, at 12 noon.

WILSON, FRANCESCA.—A memorial service April 6th, 1.30 pm at Friends Meeting House, Hampstead, N.W.3.

IN MEMORIAM

BALLYN.—In loving memory of Cecil, Captain, Royal Artillery, 658 Squadron, Air Op., DFC with Bar, who died of wounds 18th March, 1945.

FORBES, MICHAEL THOMAS CHARLES.—On this your anniversary, 17th March, 1972, so sadly missed by the family.—Deo Optimo Maximo.

HENSON, JOHN DAVEY, who died on March 18th 1979. Lovingly remembered and greatly missed. Audrey, the girls and Andrew.

NOEL.—In proud and loving memory of our father, E. V. Noel, who died 19th March, 1979.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BENNET.—The Hon. Mrs. George Bennet wishes to thank all relatives and friends for the many letters, too numerous to acknowledge individually, received in her recent bereavement, and all who so kindly attended the service in Polwarth Kirk, Greenlaw and at Warriston Crematorium, and hope that this may be accepted as a grateful acknowledgement. Thanks also to the Doctors and Nursing Staff of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

CONTEMPORARY ART 1940-1980, also modern drawings and prints, two lecture courses begin April 21st at The ICA. Information from Modern Art Studies, 140 Sloane St., SW1. 01-730 5680

ANNOUNCEMENTS

£100 off your new handmade Sofa. See JBD For Sales column.
GREEK TYPIST. Freelance. See Secretarial Vacancies.
PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS ? French Institut. See "Services".
IQ test membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055
SCOTLAND. Cooks required for sporting lodge. See Dom. & Cat.
COOK required. Marble Arch area. —See Domestic Sits today.
SECRETARY required in Mayfair. £6,500. See La Creme.
TAKE your phone fishing? Phonemate will tell you how. 01-431 0266/0257.
QUARANTINE for dogs and cats. Details in "Services" today.
LINCH-PIN for the Angel, Secretary Administrator. See La Creme.
TEMP. Change for female, late 50's. See Sits Wtd.
MARIE CURIE.—A living tribute. Please support generously by donation, "In Memoriam" gift, interest free loan or bequest, the humanitarian cancer nursing, welfare and research of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, now in its 33rd year of service to those in need.—124 Sloane Street, London, SW1X 9BP.
SUNNINGDALE GOLF COURSE.—See Rentals today.
PETER, Congratulations. Absolutely the start of a new life. Shots & Slug.
NEED HOLIDAY ? Sell the unwanted Fentonsbury. See Wanted daily.
TOP FRENCH JEWELLER.—requires Sales Assistant. See la Creme.
INTENSIVE O & A LEVEL revision at Easter. See Educational.
YOUR WILL COULD CHANGE the future of a blind child. A legacy could ensure the education and training needed for a full happy life. Full information from Hon. Sec. The Royal London Society for the Blind, Salisbury Road, London, NW6 6RH. (Regd. Nat. Assistance Act 1948 and Charities Act 1960).
SURREY manor house to let. See Rentals.
WOULD WELCOME YOUNG GIRL, 13/14, for July or Aug. Fond of horses, country, sea. To improve English of young girl same age. Mme Bouteb Coudessan, Gaillan, 33340 Lesparre Medoc, France.
EXPORT CO.—needs mature Secretary—See la Creme.
TO COLIN AND IRIS MANN.—A Siamese cat (Foppington).
WRITER seeks convenient flat.—See Property Wanted today !

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Hip operations and Gout are special features in the Spring edition of ARC, magazine of The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

Send 50p for one year's subscription (3 issues) to A.R.C., 41 Eagle St., London WC1R 4AR.

O'BRIEN PATRICK LUCIEN O'BRIEN late of 11 Park Square Mews, Park Square West, London, N.W.1, died there on 17th October 1979 (Estate about £10,400). **HART BRIAN HART** late of 86 Courthill Road Lewisham London SE13 died at London EC1 on 7 **FORD ARTHUR EDWARD FORD** late of 42 Stobhill Villas Morpeth Northumberland died at Ashington Northumberland on 7 July 1978 (Estate about £17,000). **KENDALL WILLIAM ALBERT KENDALL** late of 1 Linton Road Shoeburyness Essex died at Southend-on-Sea Essex on 7 September 1980 (Estate about £22,500). **NORTHFIELD HENRY CHARLES NORTHFIELD** otherwise **CHARLES HENRY NORTHFIELD** late of 46 Winifred Road Bedford died at Bedford on 3 June 1980 (Estate about £5,030). **SIMMONDS** otherwise **SYMONS** nee **ROSTRON ELLEN SIMMONDS** otherwise **ELLEN SYMONS** nee Rostron widow late of 53 Aylen Road, Copnor, Portsmouth, Hampshire, died at Portsmouth on 12 March 1980 (Estate about £20,000).

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LJ, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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YOUR WILL COULD CHANGE the future of a blind child. A legacy could ensure the education and training needed for a full happy life.—Full information from Hon Sec. The Royal London Society for the Blind, 105AL Salisbury Road, London NW6 6RH. (Regd. Nat Assistance Act. 1948 and Charities Act, 1960).
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WEST END SHIPPING COMPANY. —requiries PA/Secretary for Senior executives. Excellent salary + benefits.—See la Creme today !
CORNWALL.— Timesharing. — See County Property today.
UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY.—Creme de la Creme, March 12th: "Sympathy" should have read "sympathie". Owing to unusual response it may take up to 2 weeks to contact all applicants. If you wish please ring 01-636 5312. Dr M. B. Carson.
DIRECTORS SECRETARY.—£5,500 for International Shipbrokers. See Creme de la Creme today.
IBIS AFRICAN/ASIAN bird books/sets—See Wanted.
SECRETARY/PA.—required by EC4. Shipping Co.—See la Creme.
AS FROM 18 MARCH 1981, I Miss Wendy Janet Collins of High Leven, Cleveland, will change my name for all official and legal documents and general purposes to Mrs Wendy Janet Lacy.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,477

ACROSS

1 Dimension of the main beam (5).
4 Nothing's right with this romance (4-5).
9 Lilliputian old soldier ? (6-3).
10 Sent back excellent piece of bone (5).
11 Great demand for some muscular gentry (5).
12 Fixed idea might occur on speech day (9).
13 Doctor needs replacement in German city (7).
15 Zola's work includes one revised version "Selfless Bliss" (7).
18 Wandering with NCO amid ruins (7).
20 Type of cattle crossing in Moscow ? (7).
21 Stone Age book by Dickens ? (4, 5).
23 Once used to buy spirit (5).
25 Sad end for Achilles (5).
26 I am always the first taking such a view (9).
27 Point to girl over one's shoulder (9).
28 Approaches RN sea formation (5).

DOWN

1 Sir Roger's friend Will put on to serve here ? (9).
2 He gives Juan an alternative (5).
3 Englishman forgot his topi ? So impetuous ? (3-6).
4 Small number ring up after light satire (7).
5 Supplier of this meat sounds expensive (7).
6 Rising firm is supplying builders' requirements (5).
7 Music for £1 and got a bob change (9).
8 Long time ? No, endless ! (5).
14 Lea's dream girl, possibly (9).
16 Publicity: one gets in share of broadcast (9).
17 Fifteen defenders only ? About fifty (3, 6).
19 Remark: how we got abroad ? (7).
20 Rex is taking fish dish (7).
21 Johnson's pet countryman ? (5).
22 Settled up about painter hit by cowboy (5).
24 Barbarian meets a former German flier (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,476

Somalia Disaster Victims
face death from starvation

The terrible drought continues. So does the influx of refugees from the Ogaden conflict. Famine sufferers are in dire plight.

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Please send generously to : Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T1S, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed.)

(continued on page 26)